





## Relief picks up in south of Sudan

KHARTOUM (AP) — A train convoy carrying 50,000 tonnes of commercial food and supplies has arrived in the famine-stricken southern town of Wau without being attacked by rebels, newspapers said.

For most of the 10 years of civil war in southern Sudan, towns like Wau, 1,000 kilometres south of Khartoum, have been reachable only by air because of rebel attacks on train, truck and river routes.

The safety situation meant only limited amounts of food at exorbitant prices could reach the besieged towns, exacerbating the war-caused famine situation which has killed more than one million people in the last decade. According to the United Nations, an estimated four million of Sudan's 27 million inhabitants are said to be facing starvation, disease, homelessness or terrorising warfare. Both the government and rebels have used food as a weapon in the war, and transporting relief food to affected government and rebel-held areas remains a critical issue.

The newspapers heralded the arrival of the three trains in Wau Sunday. They said in recent months, only one out of five train convoys was attacked and robbed by rebels. This reflects the army control over the region.

The main rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) has been beleaguered by infighting with splinter groups as well as the loss of its main ally, Ethiopia, a year ago. This allowed the government last year to retake more than one dozen rebel-held towns. There has been a ceasefire in the south since February, but both sides have accused the others of violations. Peace talks mediated by Nigeria have made little progress.

The war has been a drain on the faltering economy of Sudan. One of the main problems Khartoum dwellers face are periodic gasoline shortages.

In the past three months, the gasoline shortage became so bad that the government lowered the weekly ration per car to two gallons of partially subsidised gasoline, and then cancelled even that.

In an effort to resolve the shortage, the government announced Monday that private oil companies will be allowed to import and sell rationed gasoline at commercial prices.

The subsidised gasoline sold at 150 Sudanese pounds (\$1) per gallon. The commercial gasoline, available starting Thursday, will cost 400 Sudanese pounds (\$2.7) per gallon, and each car owner is only allowed five gallons a week.

**WFP expands airdrops**  
AFP adds from Nairobi: The World Food Programme (WFP) has increased its airdrops of food to southern Sudan's towns and villages where some 800,000 people are in dire need, the U.N. agency has announced.

For the first time the WFP is dropping food from Khartoum in twice-daily flights over the remote villages of Thiet and Akon in the southern Bahr Al Ghazal province, the WFP said.

The statement said the drops began Sunday with food donated by the Khartoum government. Last month the WFP launched the food drops from an airbase in north Kenya when heavy rains made it impossible for aircraft to land on dirt airstrips in southern Sudan. So far the agency has dropped more than 1,000 tonnes of cereals, beans and seeds.

The WFP is also using barges to ferry food from Malakal.

## Turkish pipeline still obstacle in Iraq oil talks

Combined Agency Dispatches

UNITED NATIONS — Talks on allowing Iraq to sell a limited amount of oil to obtain humanitarian goods ended forward Monday but diplomats said the terminal for shipping the oil was still an obstacle.

"It went better, at least we had a dialogue," said one source close to the talks without elaborating. The same sources were pessimistic over the weekend, saying negotiations with U.N. officials were deadlocked and Iraq had not changed its position from last year. The talks continued Tuesday.

Before Monday's session ended, Chinnaya Gharekhan, an aide to Secretary-General Boutros Ghali, told the Security Council the two positions were "still far apart," diplomats at the meeting reported.

He said the point of shipment for the oil was a major problem and that the council would receive a paper shortly setting out the Iraqi and United Nations positions.

Iraq wants oil shipped through its Gulf terminal of Mina Al Bakr while the United States and Britain want most of the oil flowing through the Iraqi-Turkish pipeline.

They believe it can be monitored easier at the Turkish outlet and do not want to deprive Ankara of revenues after its help in the 1991 Gulf war.

Iraq's delegation, led by the under-secretary in the Foreign Ministry, Riyadh Al Qaisi, declined to comment but said previously he would "stay as long as necessary."

U.N. sources said it remained to be seen whether Iraq had simply taken a tough opening position and might be more flexible during the week. Some envoys believe Dr. Ghali might step in if it appears the talks might collapse.

At issue are two resolutions

passed by the U.N. Security Council in 1991 that ordered Iraq to sell limited quantities of oil to pay for its own humanitarian supplies. A third of the proceeds would go for U.N. costs in destroying Iraqi weapons and a reparations fund for war victims.

Iraq so far has balked at the strict U.N. monitoring of the oil sales, which would allow Iraq to sell \$1.6 billion worth of oil over six months.

U.N. officials also declined to comment publicly on progress or content of the talks. Under-Secretary-General Carl-August Fleischhauer, head of the legal department, is leading the U.N. team.

Crude oil prices on the New York mercantile exchange have fallen sharply in recent weeks on fears the negotiations may bring more oil to an already well-supplied market.

The Iraqi delegation also has been at pains to separate the oil talks from the latest crisis of U.N. monitoring of two missile bases in Baghdad.

**Iraqis reply to Gore**  
Iraq's ambassador to Japan responded Monday to remarks by U.S. Vice President Al Gore, saying the "Iraqi conflict is with the United Nations and not with the United States," the Iraqi News Agency said.

On Sunday, Mr. Gore said, "Iraqi President Saddam (Hussein) should understand very clearly that he cannot trifle with the world community," adding that the United Nations could now demand Iraq destroy the missile test sites that are at the centre of the latest Iraq confrontation with the West.

The Iraqi agency, monitored in Moscow, quoted a report from the BBC Arabic service, which in turn quoted the ambassador, Rami Al Rifai.

"Mr. Gore a representative for the United Nations, or he thinks that the Security Council

and the United Nations are departments in the American foreign ministry and that's why he speaks about them as he likes?" Mr. Rifai was quoted as asking.

"Why doesn't the secretary general of the United Nations speak, or president of the Security Council... and why do the Americans speak about United Nations causes?"

United Nations ceasefire resolutions ending the 1991 Gulf war require the elimination of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction. The present confrontation is over Iraq's rejection of surveillance cameras at two test sites, which the U.N. wants to ensure are not used to develop long-range missiles.

The Iraqi News Agency also briefly quoted Iraqi Vice-President Taha Yassin Ramadan as saying Iraq has no problem with the issue of U.N. weapons inspections, only the manner in which the requests are made.

The agency said Mr. Ramadan also was replying to Mr. Gore's remarks when he issued a statement saying the problem lay in "the new and serious manner in which requests are made. This new manner is provocative and is aimed at harming Iraq."

It was not clear if this was a reference to Mr. Gore, but he was quoted as saying the requests made by the U.N. special commission for dismantling Iraq's weapons were made for political reasons that had nothing to do with the Security Council resolutions.

Mr. Ramadan insisted that Iraq had allowed U.N. experts to inspect military sites and installations but denounced demands for surveillance cameras and equipment seals as "provocative."

The objective, he charged, "is to ignore Iraq's request for sanctions to be lifted." Economic sanctions were imposed on Baghdad by the U.N. Security Council following Iraq's 1990 seizure of Kuwait.

## CIA officer approved sheikh's visa to U.S.

By Ruth Sinai

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) officer serving in Sudan approved the permit for Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman to enter the United States in 1990, not knowing the Egyptian cleric was ineligible because of alleged ties with "terrorists," a U.S. official says.

The CIA denies any connection with Sheikh Abdul Rahman, but the findings are bound to bolster speculation in the Arab World that the CIA arranged for him to get into the United States. The speculation is based on the belief that he helped the agency recruit Afghan rebels to fight the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in the 1980s.

The U.S. official, who spoke only on condition of anonymity, said the CIA officer approved Sheikh Abdul Rahman's tourist visa request after a Sudanese U.S. embassy consular clerk assured him that the sheikh's name was not on a list of "undesirable aliens."

The question of how the sheikh entered this country arose after some of his alleged followers were arrested in connection with the February World Trade Centre bombing, and an alleged plot thwarted last month by the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) to blow up New York City landmarks.

The findings are contained in a classified report by the State Department's inspector-general, assisted by the CIA's inspector general, said the official, who is familiar with the report.

The investigation found that a series of "bureaucratic mistakes" allowed Sheikh Abdul Rahman to repeatedly skirt State Department and Immigration and Naturalisation Service (INS) controls, said Representatives Olympia J. Snowe, one of several lawmakers briefed on the report. Parts of the report will be made public.

The official who spoke of the

report's findings noted that Sheikh Abdul Rahman did not travel to Pakistan — the staging point for the Afghan rebels fighting in neighbouring Afghanistan — until 1990, after the Soviets had pulled out.

Also, Sheikh Abdul Rahman was affiliated with the most religious Muslim faction of the rebels, led by Gulbuddin Hekmatyar who was mistrusted by the CIA, the official noted.

The agency, as a matter of routine, does not comment on its operations abroad. The role of the CIA official was first reported by Newsweek.

The inspector-general's investigation found that the CIA officer at the embassy in Khartoum did not recognise Sheikh Abdul Rahman by name, said the official, even though the sheikh was known to U.S. counter-terrorism officials because of his support of radicals in Egypt.

The Egyptian cleric, who is blind, was tried and acquitted in connection with the 1981 assassination of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, and was charged with inciting a 1989 riot in Egypt.

Because of these events and other information, Sheikh Abdul Rahman was in 1987 placed on a list of 2.7 million foreigners ineligible for entry into the United States.

The Sudanese consular clerk who handled Sheikh Abdul Rahman's visa application assured the CIA officer that he had checked the name against the so-called watchlist — but he had not, the investigation found.

The clerk was reprimanded but was not disciplined further because of his honourable employment record, said another official.

This administration official, who also spoke on condition of anonymity, said investigators were convinced the clerk had acted out of haste or carelessness but not with intent to deceive.

Sheikh Abdul Rahman, 55, is being held at a federal prison hospital in Otisville, New York.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### U.S. says it regrets deaths in Somalia

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The United States said Monday it regretted the loss of life in a U.N.-backed U.S. attack in Somalia but said that more such attacks may be necessary. "We regret any loss of life in connection with this mission," said State Department spokesman Michael McCurry, noting that the two journalists killed and two others missing and feared dead since the attack had not been harmed by U.N. troops. Somalis set upon the four photographers after U.S. Army helicopters fired rockets at buildings occupied by the warlord's supporters. Mr. McCurry also stressed that the highest death toll in the attack, more than 100, had been provided by supporters of Somali warlord General Mohammed Farah Aidede, who has had a \$25,000 price on his head since the June 5 killing of 24 Pakistani peacekeepers. The United Nations gave an initial death toll of 13 while two local hospitals reported receiving about 30 dead. "It was a precision-directed (U.S.) attack that occurred under the auspices of U.N. Security Council Resolution 837," the State Department spokesman said. "It was designed to continue the pressure on the Aidede faction to stop interfering with the provision of humanitarian relief aid and disrupting civilian authority," he added. Mr. McCurry declined to respond to Italy's request that military operations be suspended and priority given to peace talks.

### Dutchman faces drug charges in Morocco

RABAT (R) — Moroccan police have charged a Dutchman with drug trafficking after finding 4.7 tonnes of hashish hidden in a truckload of ready-made clothing bound by ship for Europe. Officials said Monday the Dutch driver of the truck, Ferdinand Nicolas Pirovano, 43, was arrested in Casablanca at the weekend. The haul brought to nearly 50 tonnes the amount of hashish seized since October when the government launched a major drive against drug trafficking to Europe. More than 160 Europeans are at present serving jail sentences in Morocco after being convicted of drug offences.

### Brazil minister denies ties with PLO

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Justice Minister Maoncio Correa Monday denied he had received financial support from representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in Brazil when he ran for senator in 1986. According to the respected Jornal do Brasil newspaper, the government has a dossier alleging that Mr. Correa received \$500,000 in campaign funds at a 1986 dinner at which PLO representatives were present. "The minister has denied (the allegations). This story of receiving money from the PLO never happened," a ministry spokesman said. Last week Mr. Correa, who is in charge of the federal police, was at the centre of controversy after police allowed a key figure in the corruption scandal that toppled former President Fernando Collor last December to slip through their hands. Mr. Correa and the federal police have been embarrassed by their inability to locate Paulo Cesar Farias, the alleged mastermind behind the scheme that brought down Collor. According to the Jornal do Brasil, the former head of the federal police used the Dossier as blackmail against Mr. Correa to avoid punishment for Mr. Farias' escape. The minister has denied being the target of blackmail. A spokesman for Mr. Franco denied the president had received the dossier, but the allegations have threatened to submerge the government in a crisis just as police threaten to strike on July 15.

### Rushdie calls for support for dissidents

LONDON (AFP) — British author Salman Rushdie has urged the Western press to pay more attention to "progressive" voices in the Islamic World and appealed for support for dissident voices in fundamentalist regimes. The extensive reporting of "international Islamic terrorism," such as the bombing of the World Trade Centre, compared to the limited reporting of "domestic Iranian terrorism," represented a "victory for fanaticism," he said. "If the worst, most reactionary, most medieval strain in the Muslim world is treated as the authentic culture, so that the mullahs get all the headlines, while progressive, modernising voices are treated as minor, marginal... as small news — then the fundamentalists are being allowed to set the agenda," Mr. Rushdie wrote in Tuesday's edition of the Guardian newspaper. "What is happening to the Muslim world today must be seen as a witch-hunt of exceptional proportions, a witch-hunt being carried out in many nations, and often with murderous results. So the next time you stumble across a story... remember that the persecution it describes is not an isolated act — that it is part of a deliberate, lethal programme whose purpose is to marginalise, denigrate and even to assassinate the Muslim World's best, most honourable voices: Its voices of dissent. And remember that those dissident need your support. More than anything, they need your attention."

### Egypt apologises to Zimbabweans

HARARE (AFP) — Egyptian Ambassador to Zimbabwe Ibrahim Badawi Monday apologised to Zimbabweans for insulting remarks in Egyptian newspapers which had sparked a war of words between the two countries. In a number of recent articles Egyptian newspapers have reportedly referred to Zimbabweans as "black slaves" who are "not capable of thinking" and whose athletes eat monkeys. Following an official protest by Zimbabwean Foreign Minister Nathan Shamuyarira, Mr. Badawi said in a statement Monday that the newspapers were independent and did not reflect "the sentiments" of the Egyptian people and their government. "We see ourselves as Africans," he said. "We say, and proudly, we are Africans. Our position on this matter is that we regret that this happened."

### Kurdish rebels set terms for tourists' release

LONDON (R) — Kurdish separatists holding a Briton and his Australian cousin in eastern Turkey Tuesday said Turkish forces must stop operations in the area in order for them to be released. Engineer David Rowbottom, 28, and his cousin Tanja Miller, also 28, disappeared about a week ago and Turkish troops have been searching for them. A statement, faxed to Reuters by the Kurdistan Information Centre, said the separatists wanted the Turkish military to stop aerial and ground operations in the area while journalists and international organisations ensured the tourists' safe passage.

## Nights are long and fearful in Baghdad

By Dilip Ganguly  
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — At bedtime in Baghdad, eight-year-old Sahar no longer wants fairy tales. She clutches her most prized possession, a watercolour paintbox, and awaits her grandmother, sisters and cousins to pray.

Nadia, the 82-year-old grandmother, sits with eight of her grandchildren and waits for dawn. The Holy Koran is on a raised platform, next to the bed. After night falls on Baghdad, many families huddle together in their most protected room and try to sleep, unsure if the standoff between Iraq and the United Nations will mean another air raid.

Memories of the 43-day Gulf war and the unexpected June 27 U.S. missile attack are fresh in the minds of Baghdad's people.

With the loud bang of a worm tire bursting in 50-degree Celsius (122-degree Fahrenheit) heat on a city street, people in Baghdad look at the sky for signs of an air raid.

Cardboard boxes, tins, mattresses and even carpets are placed on bedroom doors and windows, in the hope they will offer protection from a Tomahawk cruise missile.

The United States fired 23 Tomahawks at Iraq's intelligence headquarters in Baghdad in retaliation for the regime's alleged involvement in an attempt to assassinate former President George Bush in Kuwait in April.

Iraq says at least eight people died in the air raid.

The Iraqi people know the Gulf war allies could launch

another missile barrage to force Iraq to comply with ceasefire resolutions requiring destruction of its nuclear and chemical weapons after the 1991 Gulf war. Iraq has rejected the U.N.'s installation of surveillance cameras at two missile test sites, Yamm Al Azim and Al Rafai, both about 70 kilometres south of Baghdad.

The United States fired about 40 Tomahawk missiles at a Baghdad factory linked to Iraq's nuclear weapons programme Jan. 17 after Iraq blocked U.N. inspection flights.

Iraqis have learned of the present standoff through Western radio broadcasts, because government jamming of medium-wave frequencies has ceased without explanation.

"Before I liked fairy tale stories at bedtime, now all of us want to pray and be silent," said Sahar.

Sahar is the youngest of Hakki Ismail's 15-member family.

"I like painting," said Sahar, a third grade student. "I can paint all birds. I like painting clouds, the sky." Sahar was five when U.S.-led allied forces bombed Baghdad to force occupying Iraqi troops out of Kuwait.

"I was very afraid then, but I am more afraid now, because my grandma tells me that the devil may come back," she said, echoing the feeling of Iraqi children.

"For us it is bad, but for the children it is worse," said Hakki Ismail, 26, who has been head of the family since his father died two years ago.

"I can see how much afraid my sisters and children are," said

Hakki, who works as an electrician. All the male members of his family live in one room and all women in another during the night.

Mohammad Hussein, a 45-year-old book store employee, said "We live day by day, night by night. We don't know what will happen next day or next night."

The trade sanctions imposed on Iraq as part of the ceasefire resolutions are hitting the country's 18 million people hard.

The cost of living has risen 100 per cent since the war, and the embattled dinar has plunged.

Government subsidized rations — mostly rice, flour sugar and tea — where the official rate applies, satisfy less than 60 per cent of the minimum needs of an average Iraqi family, and without them thousands would starve.

Iraq is negotiating with the United Nations to arrange a one-time sale of oil that would enable Baghdad to buy food and humanitarian supplies. Despite the growing tensions, the meetings continued Monday.

The government has doubled civil servants' salaries in the past two years, but the increase does not amount to much in the face of 6,000 per cent inflation.

"Last night I baked tomatoes, put on some mint leaves, and all of us ate that with bread," said Kamara, 45, mother of Hakki.

"We have lost many things," said grandma Nadia, who recalls with pride the good days before Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990.

"But I am sure Allah is with us," she said, pointing at the Holy Koran, kept on an ornate stand.



Some Baghdad residents buying plastic jerrycans for fuel and water storage as anxious Iraqis braced Monday for possible American air attacks (AFP photo)

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

**PROGRAMME TWO**  
18:00 ..... Le Mythoman  
19:00 ..... News in French  
19:15 ..... Ushia  
19:30 ..... News in Hebrew  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... The Story of Hollywood  
21:10 ..... News in English  
22:20 ..... Harry's Game

### PRAYER TIMES

06:02 ..... Fajr  
05:55 ..... (Sunrise) Duhur  
12:41 ..... Dhuhr  
16:02 ..... Asr  
19:48 ..... Maghreb  
21:20 ..... Isha

### 7 HILL/10M/3W/9CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church 5 W. 11th St. Tel: 811740  
Assemblies of God Church, Tel: 637785  
St. Joseph Church Tel: 624591  
Church of the Annunciation Tel: 637440  
De la Salle Church Tel: 611757  
Terrence Church Tel: 622366  
Church of the Annunciation Tel:

623541, Anglican Church Tel: 630651, Tel: 623543, Armenian Catholic Church Tel: 771331, Armenian Orthodox Church Tel: 775261, St. Ephraim Church Tel: 771751, Amman International Church Tel: 625256, Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel: 624328, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel: 823624, 654932, Church of Nazareth Tel: 675691.

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.  
Slight drop in temperatures will take place and winds will be northerly to moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp.  
Amman ..... 20 / 31  
Aqaba ..... 23 / 38  
Deserts ..... 17 / 35  
Jordan Valley ..... 24 / 37

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 33, Aqaba 38. Humidity readings: Amman 20 per cent, Aqaba 15 per cent.

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

#### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:  
Dr. Khalid Mu'addi ..... 743500  
Dr. Ghazi Abu Sheikh ..... 752405  
Dr. Samir Tawfiq ..... 780205  
Dr. Walid Al Masri ..... 675485  
Firas pharmacy ..... 661912  
Perdons pharmacy ..... 770336  
Al Asma pharmacy ..... 670255  
Nairookh pharmacy ..... 623672  
Al Salam pharmacy ..... 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy ..... 644945  
Shmoukhi pharmacy ..... 657460  
Nairookh pharmacy ..... 623672  
Najib pharmacy ..... 647632

#### IRBID:

Dr. Fajez Al Qadhi ..... 623101  
Al Quds pharmacy ..... 661101  
Abdali Telephone Repair ..... 773111  
Jordan Television ..... 774111  
Radio Jordan ..... 680100  
Water Authority ..... 680100  
Jordan Electricity Authority ..... 815615  
Electric Power

#### EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre ..... 637111

### Civil Defence Department

Civil Defence Immediate ..... 661111  
Rescue ..... 430341  
Civil Defence Emergency ..... 199  
Rescue Police ..... 192, 621111, 637777  
Fire Brigade ..... 891228  
Blood Bank ..... 775121  
Highway Police ..... 843402  
Traffic Police ..... 896390  
Public Security Department ..... 63021  
Hotel Complaints ..... 605800  
Price Complaints ..... 661176  
Water and Sewerage ..... 897467  
Complaints ..... 897467  
Amman Municipality ..... 767111  
Telephone Information (directory assistance) j. 121  
Overseas Calls ..... 010230  
Central Amman Telephone ..... 623101  
Abdali Telephone Repair ..... 661101  
Jordan Television ..... 773111  
Radio Jordan ..... 774111  
Water Authority ..... 680100  
Jordan Electricity Authority ..... 815615  
Electric Power

### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Hussein Medical Centre ..... 813813/32  
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn ..... 642816  
Akil Maternity, J. Amn ..... 642412  
Jabal Amman Maternity ..... 642362  
Malhas, J. Amman ..... 636140  
Palestine, Shmoukhi ..... 6641714  
Shmoukhi Hospital ..... 669131  
University Hospital ..... 845845  
Al-Mushtaq Hospital ..... 6672779  
The Islamic, Abdali ..... 66612737  
Al-Ahli, Abdali ..... 6641646  
Italian, Al-Mushtaq ..... 7716103  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh ..... 77511726  
Army, Shmoukhi ..... 89161115  
Queen Alia Hospital ..... 60224050  
Amal Hospital ..... 641155

#### ZARQA:

Zarqa Govt. Hospital ..... (09)983323  
Zarqa National Hospital ..... (09)900560  
Ibn Sina Hospital ..... (09)986732  
Al Hikma Modern Hospital ..... (09)999990  
IRBID:  
Princess Basma Hospital ..... (02)725555  
Greek Catholic Hospital ..... (02)727275  
Ibn Al Nafies Hospital ..... (02)747100

AQABA:  
Princess Haya Hospital ..... (03)314111

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

#### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel: 14913300-5, where it should always be verified.

#### ARRIVALS

##### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

09:30 ..... Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
10:00 ..... Jeddah (RJ)  
10:10 ..... Doha, Bahrain (RJ)  
10:25 ..... London (RJ)  
10:35 ..... Istanbul (RJ)  
11:00 ..... Frankfurt (RJ)  
11:30 ..... New York, Amsterdam (RJ)  
11:30 ..... Brussels, Paris (RJ)  
11:30 ..... Montreal, Toronto (RJ)  
11:30 ..... Madrid, Geneva (RJ)  
11:30 ..... Rome (RJ)

#### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

05:45 ..... Dubai (AZ)  
09:45 ..... Dubai (EM)  
12:30 ..... Sanaa (Y)

### DEPARTURES

#### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

11:15 ..... Amsterdam, New York (RJ)  
11:30 ..... Rome (RJ)  
11:30 ..... Berlin, London (RJ)  
11:50 ..... Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)  
12:40 ..... Doha, Bahrain (RJ)  
13:30 ..... Colombo (RJ)  
13:45 ..... Aqaba, Cairo (RJ)  
14:00 ..... Riyadh (RJ)  
14:10 ..... New Delhi (RJ)  
14:15 ..... Aden (RJ)  
14:30 ..... Dhahran (RJ)  
14:30 ..... Calcutta, Bangkok (RJ)  
14:30 ..... Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)  
14:30 ..... Sanaa (RJ)

#### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

05:45 ..... Beirut, Paris (AF)  
07:05 ..... Rome (AZ)  
09







## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

جوردان تايمز رويته عربية سياسية مستقلة تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية

Chairman of the Board of Directors:

MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Director General:

MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:

GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,  
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.

Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

### Vision not beyond realisation

THERE IS no need nor sense in a conflict between Islam and the West. Not even if historically one existed. Fortunately more and more thinkers and politicians in both the Muslim World and the West believe so. Many Muslim thinkers, some assembled in Amman today, advocate fusion between the two civilisations instead of the tension that currently prevails. For this to happen, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan advised yesterday, both should recognise the uniqueness of the other. Both should accept the other. Neither should the Islamic civilisation replace or triumph over the Western civilisation nor the other way around. Muslims and Westerners should accept that the other is not only different but that, essentially, all human beings are equal and have equal, legitimate needs.

Thinkers on both sides of the divide who see the ingredients of large-scale confrontation between the two brewing should spare no effort aimed at defusing the conflict. Whether in Palestine, Bosnia or the North-South divide, grievances must be addressed and peaceful means for resolving them found. The forces of radicalism and fanaticism are growing by the day propelled by injustice, poverty, terror and prejudice. The days of the crusaders, and martyrs should not be allowed to return. The West, the all so-powerful and so-advanced, has all the means to address the injustice felt by Muslims in Palestine, Bosnia and elsewhere in the Muslim World. It has the resources, the political and military power, the ideas and ideals and the technology to make the world a better place for everybody to live in. The Muslims have the zeal for a fresh awakening that would once more ensure them a place among the nations. The intellectual wealth of both civilisations and their fast human, scientific and material resources should, when a fusion takes place, clear the road for a better world for all human beings, free of war and misery, of poverty and ignorance, of intolerance and bigotry.

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

THE CURRENT tour of the Middle East by peace coordinator Dennis Ross could result in the resumption of the Arab-Israeli negotiations, but it is important for the Arabs to demand that such resumption mean no acceptance of continued talks that aim at nothing, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily. Holding talks for the sake of talks and negotiations without achieving progress towards a settlement can be dangerous because it fosters despair and resentment, said the paper. The Arab masses, who feel they are defeated and in disarray, are bound to face and show more despair over the lack of progress, especially as Israel continues to defy U.N. resolutions at a time when the world community is doing nothing to stem its aggression and end its occupation of Arab Land, warned the paper. If unjust peace is imposed on the Arabs, through the U.S.-Israeli alliance and through pressure and coercion, hostilities are bound to flare up at any moment in the future, continued the paper. It cited His Majesty King Hussein's repeated words that the Arabs seek peace that can be accepted by the future generations as a clear and loud warning to the two sides not to reach an unjust peace which can only breed hatred and foment hostilities. The paper said that so far the Americans and the Israelis are seeking some kind of peaceful formula to be imposed on the Arabs without achieving a durable settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict. It said that the future generations are bound to rise above the present divisions now plaguing their Arab Nation and could muster sufficient might to regain lost territory and usurped rights.

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily Tuesday backed the idea of assigning seats for women in the coming Parliament and attacked those opposing the idea. Fahd Al Fanek said that there should be a quota for women, that this is just and fair and an embodiment of equality in the atmosphere of democracy. Those opposing the idea, said the writer, claim that a quota for women in Parliament would constitute a violation of the Jordanian Constitution, but this document has clearly stated that there should be no discrimination between men and women. It is incumbent on the government to intervene on behalf of the weak and humble and serve justice to all parties, he demanded. The Jordanian Constitution, continued the writer, had earlier created a quota for the Christians and the Circassians because they are a minority and in order to assure them the minimum level of representation. This formula has been accepted by the public for decades, added the writer. He said that women could at first be given a quota of five or 10 seats, but women could win more votes, depending on the strength of their political activities, suggested the writer. He said that by introducing the quota system for women, the government would be contributing to the establishment of justice in various sectors of society.

### Economic Forum

By Dr. Abdalla Malki

## Excess liquidity could generate investment, capital formation

I really never understood the wisdom behind whatever measures taken to affect directly the level of activity in Amman Financial Market (AFM), whether these measures tried to boost prices or suppress them. Our stock exchange is a free market where supply and demand forces interplay and determine, in the process, the points of equilibrium which represent fair prices. Certainly, it is the duty of the authorities to eliminate any monopolistic conditions or foul play which impede the free and fair interaction among market forces. But it is not within the domain of a prudent economic policy of an economy based on free markets to go as far as trying to prop up demand or supply in a direct way, such as asking this or that body to buy or sell shares or to build certain equity portfolios.

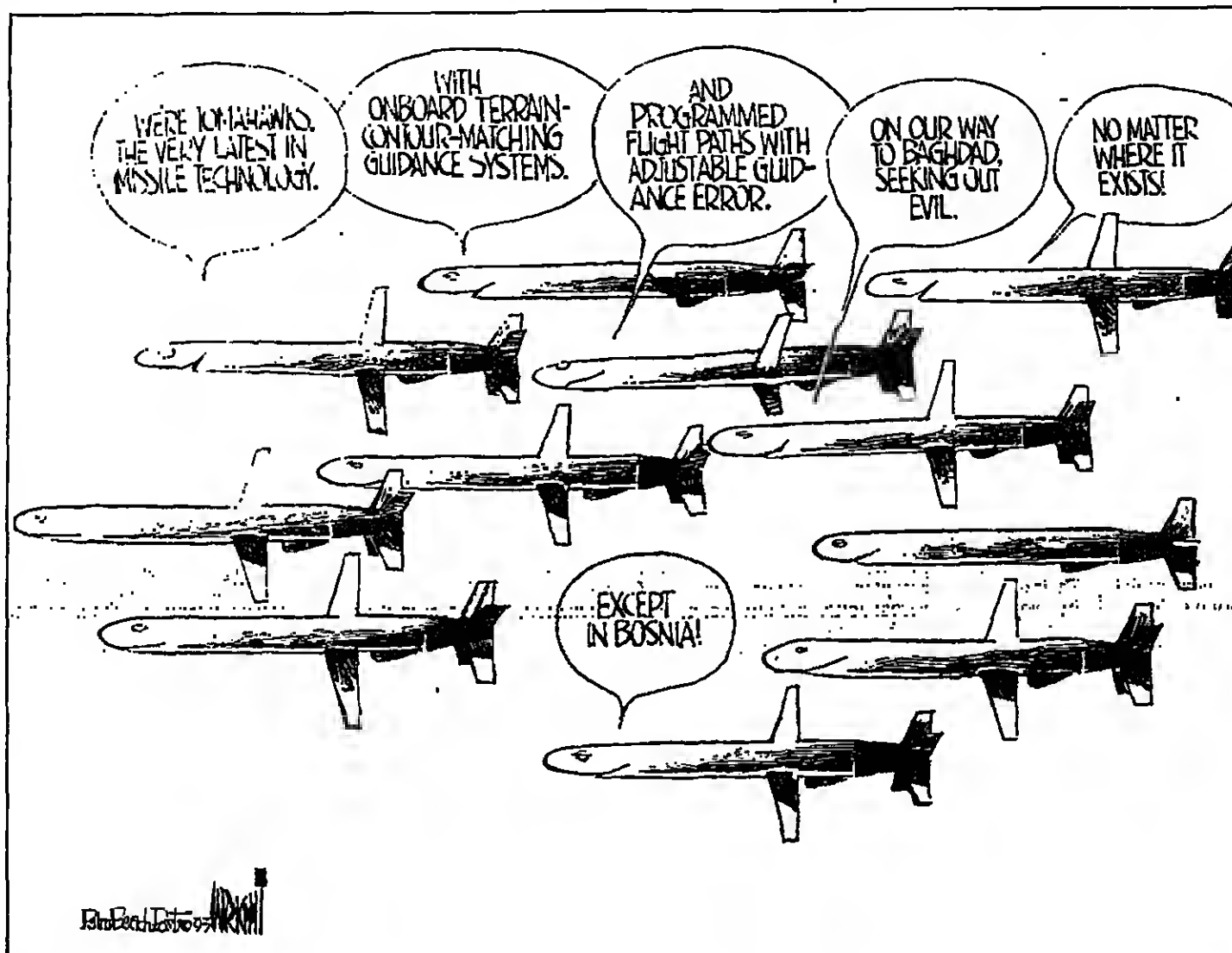
Practitioners and students of economics, alike, know very well that stock prices reflect the level of economic activity. Now any shift in the sentiments of dealers and thereby any consequential gyrations in stock prices are a function of the policy measures taken in the financial, monetary and commercial fields. The sound means to affect the overall level of stock prices is therefore to take the right policy measures.

If the prices of shares and equities go wild, it may be necessary to reinvest and adjust ongoing policies. But if these policies are found to be sound, then the movements of stock prices, in any directions, should not stir the worries of the managers of the national economy. These movements should be left to work themselves out. Otherwise, these managers will be hostages to temperamental markets. But it will certainly be their duty to warn dealers, especially real investors, against buying shares in the turbulent periods. The official advice to dealers in this case is both warranted and valuable and is likely to be heeded by them.

It is well-known that Amman Financial Market (AMF) is particularly shallow and is therefore easily moved by developments and rumours, but particularly by expectations. Contrary to mature or deep markets, it is very hardly affected by, for example, interest rates (on deposits or bonds). Thus what follows is that any price movements triggered by these developments, rumours or expectations are not translated into enduring trends that enable savers and real investors to map out financial plans. Under the circumstances, no economic policy can catch up with the mood of AFM beyond the adoption of ad hoc measures and decisions.

In the present stage, it is our contention that AFM is enjoying, or suffering from, excess liquidity in the economy. Around JD 400 million of this liquidity are chasing few investment opportunities. Occasionally, part of this liquidity pours into AFM and forces prices up. During the last 18 months, a certain part of the excess liquidity was engaged in the property market. Now that slowdown has crept into that market, more liquidity is changing course into AFM and is exercising upward pressure there. If the slowdown in property market changes into recession, as we suspect, such pressure is bound to be renewed every now and then. My impression is that share prices during the next twelve months will fluctuate, up and down, but will stay in the upper brackets.

Excess liquidity travels through the economy and, short of capital flight, can be drained only through economic investments which entail fresh capital formation. Credit ceilings observed under the economic adjustment programme have not helped in ameliorating the excess liquidity "problem", so to speak. The turbulence in AFM will most probably continue during the next twelve months.



'We call for the resumption of all serious and meaningful dialogue that seeks to preserve the rights of men everywhere'

## Crown Prince: Islamic thought is duty-bound to guarantee the prosperity of future generations

Following is His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan's address yesterday to the ninth general conference of the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (AI Al Bait Foundation)

Praise be to Allah, Lord of the universe, and may His blessing and peace be upon our lord Muhammad, the seal of all the Prophets and Messengers, and his venerable and blessed kindred.

Members of the Academy,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to extend to you my warmest greetings and a cordial welcome from the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (AI Al Bait Foundation) to this diverse gathering of Muslim scholars from all over the world.

We have always valued pluralism in personal values and judgments, as we have in political, scientific, and sectarian attitudes. Indeed, we have always believed that pluralism provides a platform for the diversity that alone can develop and enrich human life; and an element of natural freedom which allows Muslims to work together, understanding the true substance of our religion and the interests of our Umma. Pluralism becomes a medium for affinity, cohesion, and progress when guided by reason, implemented through dialogue, and promoted to seek the truth. Conversely, pluralism can become a channel for discord, mutual hatred, and estrangement when driven by ignorance and fanaticism, and directed towards achieving narrow advantages and ambitions of a particular people or groups.

It is for this reason that our efforts towards Islamic harmony are not limited only to Islamic leaders and heads of states, but extend also to Muslim scholars of various schools of thought and juristic creeds. Although they represent this diversity, these scholars nevertheless share a basic common ground. The successive meetings which we have held for scholars and jurists of the Islamic Umma were organised along this principle. Through such meetings, bridges of trust were established, an atmosphere of understanding prevailed, and deference to the views of other creeds was maintained. We focused on the issues relating to cooperation, Islamic integration, and the meeting of contemporary challenges faced by the Umma. This took place within a framework laying particular emphasis on common grounds among creeds, with a view to promoting concord among all Muslims, thus enabling our jurists, scholars, and thinkers to fulfill their task of bringing the Umma closer together and unifying its ranks.

We must not limit our deliberations and research to Muslims and their situation alone, however important that might be. If our contribution is to be successful at the international level, we need to highlight the attitudes of Islam to humanity as a whole, and to the future of civilisation. This is the issue that will occupy you in

this meeting, and some of our peerless scholars, members of our academy, have presented learned studies and dissertations on this issue.

We have frequently discussed our venerable Islamic Shari'a (law) calling it "tolerant". While I would maintain that it is indeed so, we have to pause to consider its import Islamic tolerance manifests itself within the international perspective of Islam. This is the perspective that encompasses the plurality of religions, races, and languages, ensuring their respective rights and freedoms, with particular reverence for the dignity of the human being. Dealings within Islamic society are carried out on the basis of justice and the maintenance of rights. Dealings outside Islamic society, on the other hand, are effected through covenants and pacts that regulate relations with other peoples. Such dealings have not only become clear examples of the humanity and universality of Islam, but have also become the subject of lengthy studies on Islam's position towards international agreements and what has become to be known as international law.

Such is the tolerance of Islam in its true perspective. In this manner did Islam embrace Man, as a human being, with all his pluralities; and the Holy Koran and the noble Prophetic tradition (Hadith) clearly grant all the rights of man and his fundamental and general freedoms. Any misapplications that have occurred during particular times and circumstances do not, to my

mind, subtract from this achievement.

At the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna last June, I emphasised the fact that any new world order must of necessity be a humanitarian order, both in its aims and its concepts. The human problems that leave their impact on the lives of millions of human beings

**"We have always believed that pluralism provides a platform for the diversity that alone can develop and enrich human life; and an element of natural freedom which allows Muslims to work together, understanding the true substance of our religion and the interests of our Umma. Pluralism becomes a medium for affinity, cohesion, and progress when guided by reason, implemented through dialogue, and promoted to seek the truth."**

are a product of human excesses that violate human rights and a challenge to those who would adhere and maintain them. We

## Peace is not real if it is not based on justice and right

By Rev. Ibrahim Ayad

The writer is president of the Palestine Committee for NGOs. He delivered the following speech at the tenth United Nations North American NGO symposium on the question of Palestine held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York between June 30 - July 2, 1993.

After the end of the cold war as a consequence of the collapse of the Soviet Union and the Communist regimes in the Eastern European countries and in other parts of the globe, brought about by different factors and motives, the authors of these changes have been trying to establish a new world order under the pretense of bringing peace, prosperity, and stability to humanity. What in fact this new order brought with it were more troubles, more wars, more deaths and more chaos.

The events occurring now in Africa, in Latin America, in Bosnia, in the countries of the previous Soviet Union and especially in Palestine are a clear indication of the failure of this new world order as the superpowers meaning to solve the international problems are approaching them for egoistic and interested reasons and not on a solid basis built on justice and right, and according to the established international law and legal principles recognised by human civilised society. They pretend to defend human rights while in fact they

crush in many countries these rights. Here applies the famous dictum of Madame De Staël, one of the French Revolution leaders, against her comrades in the revolution conspired, accusing her of treason and condemning her to be decapitated by guillotine who, on her way to the execution place, passing in front of the Liberty statue, shouted: "Oh liberty, oh liberty, how many crimes are committed in your name!"

Now, in the name of the so-called new world order, crimes are perpetrated in different parts of the world under the pretext of defending human rights. This is done in a selective way; at times, we witness immediate and extremely harsh military intervention, at others, similar, crimes committed against an innocent population, in flagrant violation of the Human Rights Charter and all the international rules and conventions, are condoned by the United Nations under instructions from the United States, the absolute master of this institution, as in the case of the Palestinian population in the occupied territories, who are massacred with the blessing of the United States and the cowardly silence of other states. Even the churches are keeping silent, as well as human rights organisations which rarely issue timid declarations trying to stop this systematic genocide; but Israel is intensify-

ing this offensive of killing, destroying, rendering life impossible, cutting all means of survival, especially in the Gaza Strip, killing without provocation or justification.

It is the case of Samira, 8 years old, from the camp of Rafah, who went to buy bread for her hungry brothers and was shot dead by an Israeli soldier. No voice was raised against this disgusting crime. Out of 100 Palestinian children killed in one month, 35 were under the age of 12.

Recently, Christians and Muslims were told they must have a Zionist permit to pray in the Holy Sepulchre and in Al Aksa Mosque. Thus the holy places are at Israel's mercy. The Israeli authorities partitioned the occupied territories in different zones in order to avoid Jerusalem, the heart of the area; if you have to go from Bethlehem to Ramallah, within a 20-minute distance, you have to spend more than two hours going through Jericho and Taybeh — it is evident that this prejudices the final solution to the Palestinian-Israeli problem.

The Security Council ordered unanimously the return of the 415 Palestinians deported by Israel eight months ago; but Israel is adamant in its refusal to abide by this decision and the United States not only did nothing to compel Israel to abide by the United Nations resolution, it encouraged Israel to find means to escape the implementation of the resolution.

The negotiations, which have been going on for nearly two years, produced no tangible result owing to the fact that the United States is acting not as an impartial mediator but as a full partner of Israel.

Therefore, dear brothers and sisters of the non-governmental organisation, you have an historical and active role to accomplish. You are and you should be the conscience of your states and peoples, to induce the rules in the right path of justice, to promote awareness in our people's just cause and to mobilise international public opinion for the protection of the Palestinians who are suffering the calvary of occupation. The aim of the Zionists is to compel them to surrender and accept slavery or to leave.

Notwithstanding the fact that the balance of forces is not on our side, I want to assure you that our Palestinian people, in their national dignity and pride, will not accept slavery and humiliation, will not despair, will not surrender and will continue struggling for their freedom and independence. And I want our cousins to understand that occupation, violence and oppression are not the way to real peace and stability because a peace imposed is not real and lasting if it is not based on justice and right. Violence breeds violence and the vicious circle can endure for many decades.



# Features

## Islam guarantees prosperity for coming generations

(Continued from page 4)

this world to join hands with us with view to scrutinising all the problems in an endeavour to discover their causes and prescribe the due remedies. Silence and indifference render us more adamant on pursuing our cultural enterprise.

We call for the resumption of all serious and meaningful dialogue that seeks to preserve the rights of man everywhere. We start this endeavour with the Muslim on account of the responsibility borne by him towards his own world and the preservation of it. Indeed, we seek a departure from "east is east and west is west" and "ne'er the twin shall meet..." "Everyone in a position of responsibility and every guardian, patron, and custodian are hereby requested to bring the twin together. The economic situation in the Muslim World is defective in terms of the distribution of wealth: wide population sectors live in utter poverty, while in certain countries there are vast fortunes owned by governments and private individuals. These fortunes are not invested in a manner profitable to the Islamic communities, but are rather deposited in foreign banks without it accruing the benefits ordained by the Al mighty in favour of the poor and needy.

While we are on the subject of human rights in general, I would like to urge that particular attention be paid to economic and social rights. These rights guarantee the provision of decent living standards and facilitate the establishment of an integrated and compassionate community. I persistently sense the need for this when confronted with the pervasiveness of hunger, sickness, and ignorance in considerable areas of our Muslim World.

Allow me to be frank with you in saying that we are not giving this issue due attention compared with other Islamic topics. We should, perhaps, consider the importance of Zakat (alms giving) and its role in realising solidarity and mutual compassion in our Islamic communities. Such considerations have prompted me to contact a number of responsible people in the Islamic World with a view to founding an international organisation for Zakat and solidarity. It is intended to become a development, patronage, and relief establishment, undertaking the administration of Zakat in the Islamic World. Most importantly, it will remain distant from ties with political regimes or any narrow, limited ambitions. Islamic dealings with the human being — regardless of faith, race and language — and the

future of civilisation must be mediated through another attribute of our faith, namely, its status as a religion of reason and knowledge. Reason and knowledge, together with tolerance, constitute our most viable approach, one which can make an impact on international cultural discourse, and offers Islamic perspectives on the resolution of Man's contemporary challenges. Such concepts and remedies must be offered in a subjective and scientific manner, free from rhetoric and passion. The areas in which Islam can contribute include pluralism, democracies, minorities, women, youth, childhood, moderation and compromise. All this presupposes more than an understanding on our part of all the issues and problems of the age. It also demands full cognisance of the position of the Umma within international relations, away from narrow concerns, insubstantial issues and superficial remedies.

Muslims in the golden age of Islam understood their faith to be the religion of "reason and knowledge". This was a sound understanding, for the combination of temporal and religious sciences, set in an uninterrupted symmetry, is integral to Islamic culture. Indeed, one of the foremost achievements of the Muslims of that age was their custodianship, refinement and transmission of ancient Greek and Egyptian scientific knowledge that would otherwise have been lost. Islam thus served as a vital link in the chain of human civilisations. And it is on this basis that your academy has come to take a particular interest in all aspects of Islamic civilisation, in the universal sense of the term civilisation: its sciences, its culture and its achievements. This prompted us to found the Al Al Bait University, a scientific institution open to all Muslims, and one in which temporal and religious sciences are taught.

Without such comprehensive understanding we will be unable to cope with the political, economic, social and ideological changes that can be expected at the end of this century and the beginning of the next. We hope this conference will motivate Islamic thought to look to the future of generations to come. The guarantee of their prosperity and happiness is a duty which we deeply hold in trust. In the name of Allah I declare your conference open. May He bless both its commencement and conclusion, for only He can grant success and good fortune.

BY Yasmin Alibhai-Brown

Sultana, a hospital interpreter in south London, takes me home to meet her family. The living room is self-consciously nostalgic in the way many immigrant homes are, with oriental carpets and cushions, bowls of pistachios, brass trays and even a hookah in the corner. Her son and husband are playing chess. Mona, her 12-year-old daughter, is watching Neighbours. When the ovens come on, the children are sent upstairs. There are the usual protests, to no avail.

Sultana explains, "Mona becomes hysterical when she sees Bosnia. She cries and says she hates whites. I am terrified. I don't want my children to get hatred in their hearts, like the Palestinians and Jews. Mona was born here but in school they call her Ayatollah because she wears a headscarf. Now she thinks they will kill her one day." Sultana feels such desperation about Bosnia that she went on a demonstration for the first time in her life. "I thought only communists did that kind of thing. But I had to do something."

Like Sultana, Muslims throughout the country are feeling terrible anguish over an area few had previously heard of. Dr. Abida Khan, a chemotherapy expert from Bradford, tearfully speaks about her "sisters" in Bosnia.

"I remember, like it was yesterday, scientists flying to the Gulf after the war to rescue birds and make sanctuaries for them. I wish the West had an equal emphasis on the human race." Bashir Maan, the first Asian to appear in Who's Who — politician, magistrate, author, businessman and member of swanky golf clubs — is just as troubled. "I've lived in Scotland for 40 years — the most integrated Muslim you could find. I have never felt so concerned. This has completely eroded my confidence in Western society."

These are the voices of the Muslim middle classes, those who once felt relatively secure in the West. Today they feel an intense sense of betrayal and dislocation as they watch the Bosnian tragedy unfolding. Their deep demoralisation, all the worse because it comes from a shattered confidence, makes them see things in stark terms. The arms embargo, the peace plans, the international stasis, which they see as finely turned collusion with aggression, all are intended to destroy Muslims, they believe, and if, occasionally, there are

other victims, this is a by-product of the genocidal enterprise.

To Mr. Mann this can mean only one thing: "I hate to say it, but my intuition tells me this extermination of the Muslims is because Europe cannot tolerate us on European soil. Those old dormant prejudices have raised their ugly heads."

Dr. Zaki Badawi, principal of the Muslim College in Ealing, west London, a respected academic and a voice of reconciliation during the Salman Rushdie crisis, also sees the resurrection of an ancient hatred. "The West is back to its old tricks and has no qualms about Muslims being massacred. It is partly to the destruction because it is using the blockade to stop the Muslims defending themselves. But, you know, I am surprised. The West should have learnt from the Palestinians that by sacrificing one group, it ends up with a bigger disaster. There is now a tremendous feeling across Europe that Muslim lives are devalued, that to be a Muslim is dangerous, and an apprehension that we will be bounded out of Europe."

The scale and nature of the assault on the Bosnian Muslims, and the sense of kinship that British Muslims feel with the victims, justifies their response. As the world powers push through the latest settlement in Bosnia, history bears out many of their fears.

But the situation is bringing to the surface underlying issues. For years the majority of Muslims have felt misunderstood and demonised in the West, often by popular media images that portray them as terrorists or barbaric oil potentates with money oozing out of every pore and, latterly, as religious fanatics.

Then came the eruptions over The Satanic Verses and the fatwa, which confirmed these stereotypes. Extremists certainly exploited the genuine hurt felt by Muslims to gain power, mainly among the deprived sections of the community. Yet even Muslims who disapproved of the book, but did not support the fatwa or take to the streets — people who previously felt accepted — became victims of verbal abuse and physical attack.

The assault on Islam by respectable figures from both the left and the right, and the rise of liberal fundamentalism that proclaimed superiority to all other ways of thinking life, helped to legitimise these assaults. Everyone was expected to declare their allegiance. You were either for

## Muslims in Europe

# Made to feel like trespassers

Rushdie's book or you wanted him dead. The only good Muslim was an utterly westernised and preferably godless one.

For middle-class, bicultural Muslims caught between these imperatives and shocked by the malevolence of mainstream society, the Rushdie affair created a heightened sense of religious identity. Many were forced to take stock says Rashidah Butt, a science teacher, who runs a group in Bradford for educated and articulate Muslim women who now choose to wear the hijab, or headscarf.

"As a child I hated Muslims and Muslim countries. I thought they were backward, fanatic. When I started studying the intellectual tradition of Islam, what it did for women, I began to change and to challenge what was said about us."

The turning point for Rashidah was the Rushdie affair, and the Gulf war intensified her disaffection.

victims of a holocaust, people such as Sultana thought he was insane. Today, the mildest Muslims evoke the same spectre. Their views now seem (uncomfortably for them) close to those of Dr. Kalim Siddiqui, a maverick extremist and founder of the recently established Muslim parliament. If they aren't exactly flocking to him, many more are turning in his direction, something he is happy to exploit.

"You see, Dr. Akhtar didn't have to wait long for the gas ovens. The West's actions are what they are because they don't want to allow Muslims to develop an identity on European soil. It is the old medieval Christian reaction, and their history shows that they are a killing machine," says Dr. Siddiqui.

Saha Rissaluddin, from the Campaign for Bosnia, a respected group supported by MPs that is fighting for a sovereign and democratic Bosnia, believes this

go of all that is good about us for that?"

There is also criticism of the in-fighting and oppression within the community and the cowardice, corruption and compliance of the rich Muslim countries which have made Muslims vulnerable. Many influential Muslims are now arguing for unity, self-help and development away from mainstream society. Various aid groups, newspapers and education projects that have sprung up recently show that this is already happening.

But will the developments that come from such disenchantment prove to be counter-productive? Separatism will certainly ghettoise Muslims further and in turn help to justify their continuing maltreatment. Dr. Badawi believes that it also encourages simplistic analysis, and that it is dangerous to fall into that trap.

"We should think clearly what should be the best route. We must organise politically, but within mainstream politics, not isolate ourselves like the Muslim parliament. We should make ourselves understood, increase our influence gently, sensibly, have a sophisticated approach. And Europe must listen for its own sake. But these messages are so difficult today. How can people think rationally when there is such grief?" — The Independent

**"If they can destroy Bosnians, who are white, European and Muslim in name alone, who are completely integrated, what hope is there?"**



Rashidah Butt: As a child I hated Muslims; when I studied Islam's intellectual tradition I began to change

## Computer lets drug researchers walk into a molecule

By Ben Hirschler  
Reuters

LONDON — Scientists are donning "virtual reality" helmets in the latest twist in a worldwide drive to harness powerful modern computers for drug design.

Until now the computer-generated world known as virtual reality (VR) has been a playground for those bored with conventional computer games.

Scientists from Britain's York University and the drug firm Glaxo believe it may also be a valuable way of understanding the structure of molecules involved in disease and discovering drugs to block their action.

Working with the division group, a Bristol-based VR specialist launched on the stock exchange last month, the team has completed a test study. The plan is to put the technique to work in a three-year project starting in August.

"Our pilot study has shown VR can offer advantages," said Dr. Rod Hubbard, reader in chemistry at York University.

"Now we're looking at a fairly major project to develop the software, the techniques and the hardware."

Wearing a headset containing two tiny television screens, giving a three-dimensional effect, researchers have the illusion that they are actually walking around inside a molecule.

As they move, the computer redraws the image, giving a startling sense of solidity. With a special glove they can even reach

out and grab parts of the molecule, twisting and flexing the structure to investigate its make-up.

Dr. Hubbard — who was inspired by pioneering work on VR at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill — sees it as a natural successor to the powerful work stations with three-dimensional graphics now used in the drug industry.

"With VR you are actually immersed in the molecule... and if you want to design another small molecule to stop it working that enhanced perception has to help," he said.

Division Marketing Director Pierre Dupont said other drug companies were also in exploratory talks on using VR, reflecting an industry-wide shift in approach to drug discovery.

Most existing drugs were found by "molecular roulette" — the random screening of many thousands of natural and synthetic compounds, a hugely expensive and inefficient process.

Advances in molecular biology and a quantum leap in computing power now offer a potential short-cut.

Today, scientists fighting viral diseases, including AIDS, are trying to home in on a virus's most vulnerable features and design drugs to disarm it.

Several "rational" anti-AIDS drugs are already in trials and on June 3 researchers said they had made a first step towards a cure for influenza using a computer.

A group from Monash University in Victoria, Australia, and Glaxo created a computer model

of two compounds to block an enzyme used by the flu virus to reproduce. Animal tests showed that they worked, although they have yet to be tested on humans.

The results of this research would "excite and encourage those involved in rational drug design," according to Dr. Garry Taylor, a biochemist at the University of Bath.

Dr. Lynda Boyle of Proteus International, a specialist U.K. company, reports fast growing interest in computer drug design and believes the area is set to take off.

"You will see a very significant increase in rational drug design over the next decade. The drug companies can no longer afford to be left behind," she said.

Dr. Peter Murray-Rust of Glaxo's Protein Structure Group is cautious about any short-term payoff from VR.

He said it was a useful — and natural — way for researchers to learn what complex molecules looked like but believed the technique would remain complementary to existing drug discovery.

"It helps us understand the molecules that we have to interact with on a chemical and biological level. We can construct hypotheses to the computer and see if they are worth taking forward to the laboratory," he said.

He points out that while VR offers excellent scope for human interaction, visualisation is still relatively poor. "We're pushing the limits of the present technology," he added.

Steve Arlington, pharmaceuticals specialist with management consultant Coopers Lybrand, believes the main role for computers in drug design will be to help keep down the cost of developing a new drug, calculated at an average of \$270 million.

"It allows drug companies to get more information before they synthesise a compound," he said. "And a lot of highly-skilled man hours can be avoided if you make rational decisions based on information the computer gives you."

## JORDAN VALLEY ARABIAN STUD

The JVAS announces an exhibition of horses and equipment to be held on July 16 Friday at 3.00 p.m., the show will stay until 8.00 p.m. The exhibition includes registered horses (WAHO), jumping, local horses as well as ponies and cross country and horses from the Syrian peninsula known for the height and stamina. The equipment includes foreign saddles such as, Stubben, Siegfried, multi purpose, military, and American saddles. Hats, breeches, jackets, boots, spurs and items related to horses. A free demonstration will be held to show the proper way to saddle horses and the proper items to be put on the head such as bridles, snaffles and others, and an explanation of the dangers which might face the rider.

The JVAS is not a night club or a restaurant, the JVAS is a specialized establishment to teach the interested in horses the proper way to ride. The JVAS teaches those who want serious riding, cross country, and jumping. Members and those who are interested are welcome to join and are expected to abide by the rules and regulations of the school. Horses and equipment are for sale to those interested in buying good horses and proper equipment and to keep them at the stud if they want. Cross country riding can be arranged for groups who are serious and come on time.

Entrance is free for the public. For more information call 829882

## Jobless Palestinians give Gaza facelift

By Barry Parker  
Agence France Presse

GAZA CITY, Occupied Gaza Strip — The piles of rotting rubbish and debris of five years of violent uprising in Gaza are being swept away by an army of jobless Palestinians who are cleaning up the occupied Strip.

Israel's military administration has taken on 15,500 street sweepers, painters and odd-job men in the last month to tackle the mammoth task. Filth and stench are no longer synonymous with the strip as small groups of workers crisscross the city streets pushing brooms and wheelbarrows loaded with shovels.

"We have no choice, this is the only work we can find," said Hamad Fayad, who was among the first daily labourers taken on by Gaza City Hall in June.

He earns 25 shekels (\$8.9) for sweeping up from seven a.m. to two p.m., with a half-hour break.

When Israel sealed off Gaza at the end of March after Palestinians murdered 15 Jews, some 40,000 Gazans were thrown out of work as they were no longer

allowed to travel to Israel.

With unemployment estimated as high as 50 per cent, the administration launched the clean-up project and Palestinian political leaders have acquiesced.

Another 2,000 workers have been employed to resurface roads, build three Islamic courts and modernise schools and hospitals for the Strip's 780,000 Palestinians.

"We see this as a public service, but we know the Israelis are making it a political issue. They want us to clean the infitah graffiti off the walls. We have refused," 25-year-old Fayad said. "They want to use this as a way to kill the infitah (uprising). We know what they are doing but we have no choice. This is our city and we are keeping it clean."

"At least it is better for us to clean Gaza than to clean Israel."

At Al Medina Junction, a main intersection in Gaza City, fresh paint glistens on kerbstones and pedestrian crossings under the sweltering midday sun. Pavements once littered with rubble and rubbish are now pristine.

However in the city's dust-blown refugee camps of Jabalia

and Shatti little has changed. Open sewers still run through the alleys where Palestinian youths confront Israeli soldiers in the daily violence of resistance to occupation.

"We have 30 million shekels for the clean-up," said an administration spokeswoman. "That will last until the end of July and we are hoping to get more money to carry on. I know they think they are being paid little but in the circumstances it is better to employ more people for less money than a few people for more," she said. "But I don't think we are trying to end the infitah by getting people to clean the streets."

On Al Shooahada Street in Gaza's well-off Rimal district, five road-sweepers are taking a break under the shade of a tree. Musa Ali Yakud, 36, was a metal-worker in Tel Aviv bringing home more than 70 shekels a day until the army closed the Strip. He has six children and two

weeks ago applied for one of the road-sweepers jobs advertised by the municipality.

"The 25 shekels a day is not enough but what else can I do," he said.

Amin Samur, 24, went to Moscow to study medicine, lost his scholarship in the Soviet collapse and returned home with a Russian wife and child. He too is sweeping the streets. "I can't find anything else," he said.

Fayez Abu Rahme, a Gaza lawyer who is close to the Palestine Liberation Organisation, said: "Israel is making propaganda out of cleaning up Gaza."

But he added that the PLO were not against the operation. "It's a job for the municipality and there are no political connections."

Kamal Wehaidy, general director of works and transport, is running the clean-up project for Gaza City Hall, under orders from the Israelis.

## EMBROIDERY 2000

AMERICAN WAY OF REAL SALE HAS REACHED JORDAN TOP QUALITY T-SHIRTS  
ORIGINALLY JD 12 NOW ONLY JD 5

BATH TOWELS WITH YOUR NAME MONOGRAM ON  
ORIGINALLY JD 16 NOW ONLY JD 10

THREE PIECE SET OF AMERICAN TOWEL  
ORIGINALLY JD 30 NOW ONLY JD 20

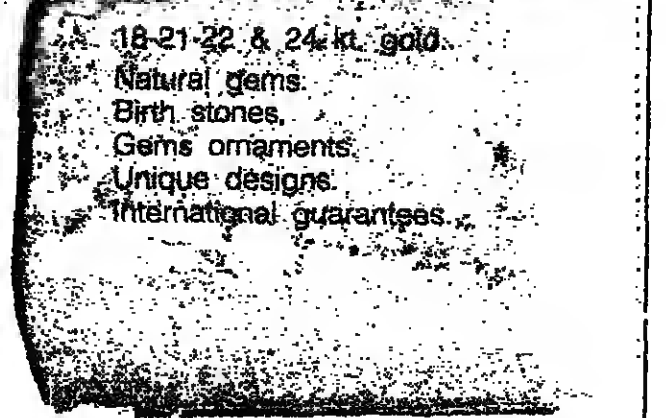
ROYAL BEACH TOWELS  
ORIGINALLY JD 15 NOW JD 12

CHILDREN TOWEL ROBES  
ORIGINALLY JD 15 NOW JD 12

ADULT TOWEL ROBE  
ORIGINALLY JD 35 NOW JD 30

SWIMMING COSTUMS FROM JD 25 UP TO JD 45

EMBROIDERY 2000 THE BEST PLACE TO BUY  
YOUR PERSONALIZED GIFTS SHMESANI : 693046  
NEXT TO YUSEF BAKIR STORES



18-21-22 & 24 kt. gold  
Natural gems  
Birth stones  
Gems ornaments  
Unique designs  
International guarantees

**\*DA JEWELLERS ANI**

World Resources.  
Amman Rio de Janeiro  
Since 1989 Since 1975

## Jordan's trade deficit widens

(Continued from page 1)

Imports exceeded the IMF target by JD 636.6 million (\$925 million). Exports plus re-exports were close to the ceiling of JD 832.8 million (\$1.21 billion).

The Central Bank said the increase in imports was mainly from capital goods and raw materials — a total of JD 1.29 billion (\$1.88 billion) — reflecting the widening of Jordan's production base due to increased industrial

investment.

Capital goods worth JD 510 million (\$741 million) — an increase of 75 per cent — and raw materials worth JD 789 million (\$1.15 billion) were imported in 1992.

Jordan imported JD 900.5 million (\$1.31 billion) of consumer goods, mostly durables, in a burst of spending to compensate for unsatisfied demand after a period of austerity following the 1988 dinar devaluation crisis.



## Japanese banks look for business in Gulf Arab countries and Eritrea

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Japanese banks are shopping for fresh business in the Gulf and Eritrea to capitalise on a regional economic upswing and post-war reconstruction in that Red Sea state, Japanese diplomats said Monday.

A delegation from the Tokyo Centre for International Finance, which groups key Japanese banks, visited the United Arab Emirates (UAE) last week and was to include other Gulf states and Eritrea on its tour, they said.

The visits are part of the centre's regular tours around the world to assess economic and political conditions and explore investment opportunities. "A Gulf-based diplomat told AFP, adding that the delegation's talks here had been fruitful.

He said the delegation, led by the centre's chief economist, Morito Ohara, held talks with UAE central bank officials, the state-run Abu Dhabi Investment

Authority as well as the chambers of commerce and industry in Abu Dhabi and Dubai, the richest and largest of the federation's seven emirates.

The tour coincides with a business mission in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states, where multi-billion dollar industrial projects are underway or on the cards as part of a drive to diversify their oil-dependent economies.

The GCC states of Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and the UAE have also launched projects that are expected to cost more than \$60 billion to boost their oil and gas production capacity to meet an expected increase in world demand.

Experts believe the GCC countries might resort to borrowing to finance such projects, given a sharp decline in their oil earnings and increased defence spending. "The delegation discussed

financing projects in the UAE in general but I have no information if they covered oil projects," a Japanese source said.

Japan is already a major investor in the region, with assets of about \$3.5 billion mainly in oil and gas.

It gets some 60 per cent of its oil imports from the Gulf and its trade with the six members peaked at \$35 billion in 1992.

Many Japanese banks stopped their dealings with the region during the Gulf war but resumed operations after the end of the conflict in early 1991.

A UAE official said the Japanese delegation was satisfied with the country's economy and the performance of its banks in the past two years.

"We showed them that our banks made record profits in 1992 and this naturally reflects better economic conditions. They expressed satisfaction and promised

to study investment chances here," the official said.

The UAE maintained a trade surplus with Japan of \$1.7 billion in the first quarter of 1993 against \$1.67 billion for the same period last year, despite Tokyo's bid to boost exports to the wealthy region, according to official Japanese figures.

A report by the Dubai-based Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO) said the surplus was due to the emirates' large oil exports to Japan.

Trade between the two countries has steadily grown in the past few years, standing at a record \$12.4 billion in 1992.

In Eritrea, which this year declared its independence from Ethiopia after a 30-year war, the delegation was to discuss the financing of various projects with officials there, notably to help with reconstruction efforts, the diplomat said, but provided no other details.

## EC ministers agree to tackle budget deficits

BRUSSELS (AFP) — European Community (EC) finance and economic ministers agreed here Monday on the need to cut growing budget deficits and begin yearly reviews of plans for tightening their economies despite the recession.

The ministers acted after hearing reports from two EC panels that sounded the alarm over rising public debt and urged members states to cut their deficits rather than seek quick fixes for economic growth.

The reports were issued as EC members grappled with how to meet the strict fiscal criteria laid out in the Maastricht treaty on a monetary union by 1999 while trying to revive their economies mired in recession.

The ministers noted in a statement after their bi-annual review of the community's economic situation that several countries were having trouble meeting targets for the reduction of budget deficits and public debt.

But it added: "There is now widespread agreement that the best contribution that budget policy can now make to recovery is to announce credible, medium-term measures to reduce fiscal imbalances."

The ministers urged the 12 EC members to update their "convergence programmes" for meeting the Maastricht criteria after the adoption of their national budgets each year.

They said such updates should "take into account the deterioration in the economic situation" and be based on "realistic assumptions compatible with the community's general economic outlook."

The meeting also urged moves to create the conditions for a further lowering of interest rates, such as budgetary rigour and efforts to hold down wages.

Belgian Finance Minister Philippe Maystadt, whose country holds the rotating EC presidency, told a news conference the community's members were committed to reducing their deficits.

"There is hardly a margin of manoeuvre for economic recovery policies financed by an in-

crease in the public deficit," he said. But Mr. Maystadt said countries could only "hope" to meet the Maastricht timetable.

Earlier, the EC's Economic Policy Committee and the Committee of Central Bank Governors presented separate reports warning the community it was actually moving from the Maastricht objectives.

The reports forecast the community's average public debt would reach 67 to 69 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) this year, up from 59.5 per cent in 1989. The Maastricht treaty targets a ceiling of 60 per cent.

Both committees said the public sector deficit for the community as a whole would top six per cent of GDP this year, a record figure up from the 2.7 per cent recorded in 1989 and double the Maastricht cap of three per cent.

They said such trends would hamper efforts to promote medium-term growth to combat the community's growing unemployment crisis and could also make it more difficult to lower interest rates.

"The key to reducing real interest rates (particularly long-term rates) and thus stimulating economic growth is a decrease in the public sector's claims on private saving," the bank governors said.

The ministers, meanwhile, welcomed Britain's convergence programme as ambitious yet realistic, but warned London it may have to tighten its belt further if economic recovery is slower than expected.

Some EC officials had earlier expressed concern over Britain's plans to cut its £50 billion (\$75 billion) budget deficit and queried whether it was committed to meeting the Maastricht deadline.

They particularly disputed London's view of how much of the deficit was linked to cyclical growth patterns and how much was structural.

Britain's convergence plan counts on reducing its public deficit from eight per cent of GDP in 1993-94 to 3.75 per cent in 1997-98.

## Economic union between 3 Slavs to fill CIS gap

MOSCOW (AFP) — In deciding to create a new economic union, Ukraine, Russia and Belarus — the three Slavic sisters of the former Soviet Union — are hoping to fill the gap left by the lame and ineffective Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

The premiers of the three countries agreed during a meeting held over the weekend here to work out by Sept. 1 a treaty on the new union in a move that much resembled the 1991 Belarussian agreement that led to the death of the Soviet Union.

"The situation has become unbearable," Belarussian Premier Vyacheslav Kebich said in an interview with the Russian newspaper Komsomolskaya Pravda Tuesday.

"Economic ties have broken down. The CIS has become a dead end and we now understand that we're all falling into a hole," Mr. Kebich stated.

Trade disputes between Russia and Ukraine over energy supplies and uncoordinated economic reform programme have adversely affected industry in all three countries.

Factories and businesses throughout the former Soviet Union are still very much dependent on each other for spare parts and raw materials.

Less than two years after leaders of Russia, Ukraine and Belarus met at a hunting lodge outside of Minsk to lay the groundwork for the CIS, Mr. Kebich admitted that the alliance fell short of expectations.

"Frankly speaking, everyone at that meeting was gripped by a sort of euphoria and no one clearly understood where we

were headed," Mr. Kebich said. "We had only one goal in mind: 'Get rid of (Mikhail) Gorbachev.'"

The proposed economic union would considerably tighten ties between the three Slavic countries by creating a single economic space, allowing free trade, coordinating currency regulations and harmonising legislation.

Belarus, Russia and Ukraine also plan to develop a common social policy, guarantee the right to own property in any of the three countries and allow freedom of movement for the combined population of 210 million people.

There are also efforts to increase military cooperation to protect air space and allow for joint use of military intelligence, Mr. Kebich said.

It was not clear however that the Slavic alliance would result in a more effective partnership than the CIS, which has been plagued by continual bickering between Russia and Ukraine over just about every area of cooperation.

Mr. Kebich said that while Russian President Boris Yeltsin had given his approval to the Slavic union months ago, Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk had only recently decided to support the idea.

Ukraine's economy has been racked by high inflation and plummeting production, partly due to the break-down in ties with other former Soviet republics.

The proposal came after Central Asian states began lobbying for an economic union with Turkey and Pakistan.

## World Bank has new plan to ensure loan effectiveness

WASHINGTON (R) — The World Bank, criticised for not paying close attention to projects after loans are made, unveiled new steps Monday it said would change the way it measures its success in helping countries.

The new measures, which emphasise greater efforts to make loans do the work they were designed for, follow a review of existing projects that showed an increasing pattern of failed efforts.

The bank assists member-countries in both reforming their economies so they work better and in a huge array of projects that include building roads and schools.

Central to the plan, it said, is the commitment to make management of projects that are in force as important as making new loans.

"Only sound, on-the-ground results — the development of projects — are true measures of the bank's contribution to sustainable development," World Bank Acting President Ernest Stern told reporters.

The bank said it would manage its portfolio of loans on an overall country level rather than looking at them on a project by project basis.

It said that for each borrowing country, the entire portfolio of bank-financed projects will now

become the measure of assessing effectiveness.

The bank made it clear that responsibility for making projects work would remain at the local level, arguing it would be a mistake for it to manage them on a continuing basis.

However, performance of the projects would be reviewed more regularly to catch problems at an earlier stage before they became fatal.

Mr. Stern told reporters that first and foremost, development is the responsibility of countries themselves.

"The bank's efforts to improve the development impact of its work, ultimately, can only be successful as the efforts by our borrowers to help themselves," he said.

A study completed in November 1992 by former World Bank vice president Willi Wapenhans found that among operations in progress, some 20 per cent were experiencing "major problems".

## Nearly 50% of Americans never heard of NAFTA

NEW YORK (AFP) — More than four out of 10 Americans have never heard of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) due to be voted on by Congress in the autumn, a New York Times-CBS poll published Monday found.

Forty-four per cent of the 1,363 adults questioned admitted they had read or heard nothing about the NAFTA treaty, which aims to create the world's largest free-trade zone, covering the United States, Canada and Mexico.

Forty-five per cent of respondents were aware of NAFTA, with 22 per cent backing it and the remaining 23 per cent opposed. Seventeen per cent believed it would cost jobs in the United States, the survey found. If the treaty is adopted it will create a free-trade zone comprising 370 million people and with a \$6 trillion per year economy. The survey was conducted between June 21 and 24.

## Nepal announces \$724.8m budget

KATHMANDU (AFP) — The Nepal government Sunday announced a 1993/94 fiscal budget of 35.5 billion rupees (\$724.8 million), heavily dependent on foreign aid and loans, officials said.

The fiscal year starts July 16. In a more than one hour speech broadcast over radio and television Minister of State for Finance Mahesh Acharya earmarked 22.6 billion rupees (\$462 million) for development expenditure.

A further 12.9 billion rupees has been laid aside for regular expenditure out of which 3.38 billion is earmarked for police, defence and other civil service salaries.

Mr. Acharya said at least 68.9 per cent of the development expenditure would be met from foreign aid and loans.

The government hopes to collect 18.08 billion rupees in revenues which include fresh tax proposals, land revenues, increased sales taxes and tourism.

The visa fee has been raised 100 per cent to \$40 for 30 days. Similarly, an additional 100 rupees has been added to the 550 rupee embarkation tax. Earnings from the added embarkation tax will be used to tackle environmental problems.

Mr. Acharya also announced increased duties on cigarettes, roasted tobacco, beer and liquor.

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY JULY 14, 1993

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Eight strong aspects indicate that planetary forces are with you for increasing income and popularity. Get active early today and state your desires to the right people. Avoid trouble makers.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Your mate can want you to do something difficult for you to put across but a close companion has some brilliant ideas how best to achieve this result.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) A partner can be a problem by checking a plan that is important to your progress and a good friend about private anxieties will get you nowhere but fast during the day but tonight you can join plans for a great time.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) A fellow associate puts obstacles in the path of your doing the tasks you wish to do well but one in power understands and eases the situation.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Don't try to arrange entertainment interests in the daytime but tonight new conditions come up that give you a very satisfactory outlet.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) There are a number of problems at your residence you would be wise to take under advisement until a later time and get into the practical aspects of business.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) There are a number of communications you would be wise to

mult over before acknowledging but later you can get many tasks of value finished.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) The daytime finds you with material problems that require some time and much thought to handle so don't be hasty while tonight you can make surroundings just glow.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) You would certainly be wise not to force your aims on others today so be subtle and tactful but tonight you can join plans for a great time.

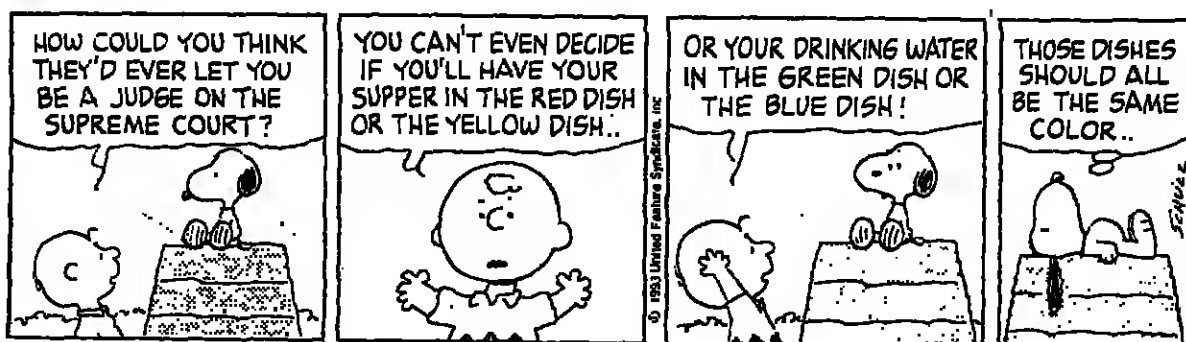
**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Fussing and fretting about private anxieties will get you nowhere but fast during the day but tonight new conditions should be ideal.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 19) You think you can get a purposeful friend to do your bidding but the price paid would be too high while tonight you can travel about seeing good friends.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 20 to February 19) This is the day to be wise as a serpent and harmless as a dove in the outside world of activity during the daytime but tonight you see ways to increase assets.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) Consider well any new or advanced ideas you think will work out for you and postpone any action while tonight you have a fine judgment to gain your goals.

## Peanuts



## Andy Capp



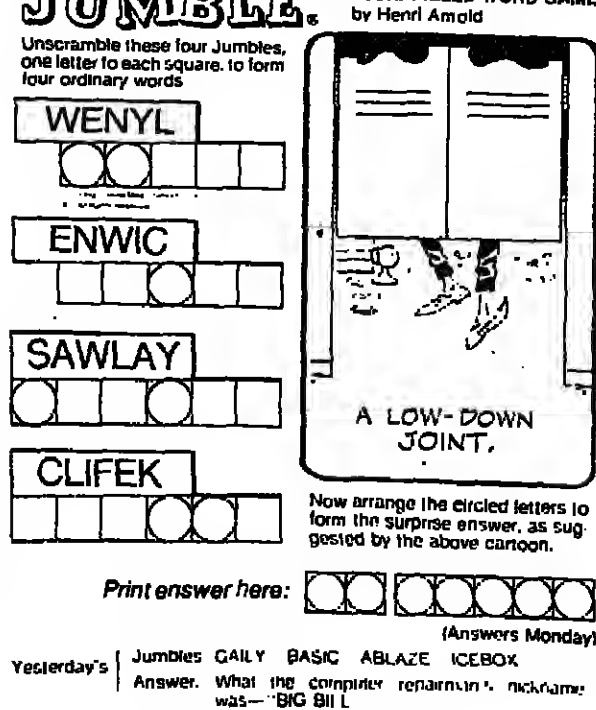
## Mutt'n'Jeff



## THE BETTER HALF. By Glasbergen



## JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME



## THE Daily Crossword by Dennis H. Trump





**AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET**

HOUSING BANK CENTER AMMAN - JORDAN  
TELEPHONE: 662112 & 662113  
ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR TUESDAY 13/7/1993

COMPANY NAME	TRADED	PREV.	CLOSING	OPENING
JORDAN NATIONAL BANK	222,000	191.000	191.000	191.000
BANK OF JORDAN	10,000	10.000	10.000	10.000
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK	10,000	10.000	10.000	10.000
THE HOUSING BANK	10,000	10.000	10.000	10.000
JORDAN VULCAN BANK	10,000	10.000	10.000	10.000
JORDAN INVESTMENT BANK	10,000	10.000	10.000	10.000
JORDAN SECURITIES BANK	10,000	10.000	10.000	10.000
SECURITIES BANK	10,000	10.000	10.000	10.000
JORDAN INVESTMENT & FINANCE BANK	10,000	10.000	10.000	10.000
DETAILED LIST OF STOCKS AND BONDS				

## China widens offensive to restore economic order

PEKING (AFP) — The Chinese government widened its offensive to cool off the economy Tuesday, ordering a halt to real estate speculation that has largely fueled overheated investment and corruption.

At the same time, Peking won unanimous support from the country's four main state-run banks for its decision last week to restrict credit.

It also decided to review all new investment projects in an effort to centralise funds for infrastructure, and would scrap those which did not meet criteria set down by the central government.

Boostered by this initial success, Zhu Rongji, the new central bank chief and vice premier in charge of the economy, shifted the focus of the offensive to the free-wheeling real estate market, official reports said.

Construction Minister Hou Jie, acting on Mr. Zhu's behalf, announced seven measures to crack down on the real estate market, they said, including an order for land administration departments, banks and financial institutions to break off all links with real estate businesses.

Local governments must reclaim all land that was leased without the required licenses, Mr. Hou told a national meeting here of real estate officials.

Construction of horse race tracks and golf courses would be banned without central government approval, he said, adding that investment in villas, holiday resorts, luxury hotels and office buildings would be strictly limited.

The cabinet was also preparing to dispatch an investigation team to the provinces, especially those on the coast, to review the thousands of special developments that have mushroomed in the last year.

Any zone that received legal authorisation, but was outside state limits on land development, would be stripped of its license. Licenses that have already been issued would be recalled.

"Some zones set up without approval could be halted," the China Daily said.

China's shift to a market economy last year opened the flood gates for widespread speculation in the real estate market, which lacks a regulatory framework. The absence of adequate controls has had major repercussions, with scarce farmland being plowed under to make way for new projects and local banks ditching out loans to fund the highly speculative ventures.

The rush to cash in on real estate has also spawned widespread official corruption, with state bankers and government officials using their powers to authorise unlicensed land deals.

In the first five months of the year, real estate investment jumped 115 per cent. Last year, more than 240,000 hectares (5.9 million acres) of land was set aside for real estate development, exceeding the central government's target by more than 100,000 hectares.

In a bid to impose order, real estate agencies would be trimmed and registered, Mr. Hou said, and the government would introduce a bidding system for all land and housing on sale.

Money recovered from the crackdown on real estate speculation would go toward infrastructure, including easing transportation bottlenecks, and building sorely needed residential housing, he said.

Meanwhile, the Agricultural Bank of China and the People's Construction Bank of China, Monday joined China's two other major state-run banks, the Bank of China and Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, in backing the central bank's order last week to halt irregular interbank lending and recall funds extended to non-financial institutions, the China Daily reported.

The Agricultural Bank, in a meeting attended by Mr. Zhu, pledged reserve adequate funds to ensure farmers' incomes and a strong summer harvest. Peking is increasingly concerned by rural unrest, triggered by the state's failure to pay for crops and rampant grassroots corruption.

China hopes that its economic rectification plan will bring economic growth this year down to about 10 per cent. Output in the first five months of this was 14 per cent higher than a year earlier.

In another related development, the central government announced plans Monday to launch "trench warfare" against rampant tax fraud.

The country's chief prosecutor, Zhao Dengfu, said the crackdown would focus on manufacturing companies falsifying export documents. Some 151 of these firms cheated the government of 203 million yuan (\$35 million) last year.

A special office would be set up in Shenzhen, China's first special economic zone bordering Hong Kong, to root out the illegal practice, Mr. Zhao said.

## Egypt starts work on second privatisation wave

CAIRO (R) — Egypt, under pressure from the World Bank to speed up public sector reforms, has started to evaluate a second tranche of public sector companies for privatisation, a senior official said Tuesday.

Fouad Abdul Wahhab, chairman of the Public Enterprise Office (PEO) overseeing Egypt's privatisation process, told Reuters his office sent out invitations last month to consultants to bid to evaluate more than 40 public sector firms.

One of the consultants bidding said he expected 45 firms, which have been split into 20 groups, to be evaluated and ready for sale by early next year.

World Bank dissatisfaction with the pace of privatisation of a first tranche of 20 public firms Egypt targeted last year led the IMF earlier this year to delay approval of a new phase of reforms, holding up Western debt forgiveness of more than \$3 billion.

After two years of talking about privatisation, Cairo has sold only a handful of companies from the huge, largely loss-making sector of Egyptian built up during 30 years of socialist economic planning.

The consultant said the 45 firms of the second tranche came from all sectors, including industry and agriculture, unlike first tranche companies which came chiefly from the relatively easy-to-sell tourism.

He added that a clear privatisation procedure had now been set up to end what he called the "teething problems" of the first stage sell-offs, which have been delayed largely by arguments over evaluation of the firms.

He said 21 consulting firms had now been approved by the PEO to work on evaluations. Each of the 19 holding companies which control the 300-odd firms in the public sector has been assigned five of the 11 consultants and sends them invitations to bid each time new businesses are to be evaluated.

## Unions' bow to Murdoch puts New York Post back in print

NEW YORK (AFP) — Unions agreed Monday to huge cuts in the New York Post's operating costs, keeping the bankrupt tabloid afloat through its fourth crisis in five years.

Though not all the Post's employees had agreed on new contracts, journalists and production workers returned to work to publish a Tuesday edition.

Publisher Rupert Murdoch closed the brash tabloid Friday after last-ditch negotiations with the unions failed to yield an agreement by his deadline. No edition was published Saturday or Monday; the tabloid has no Sunday edition.

Union leaders agreed Monday to the \$6.2 million in reduced operating costs demanded by Mr. Murdoch, who said he has suffered \$300,000 a week losses at the Post since he took over management of the paper in March.

The media magnate has already invested \$4 million in the newspaper, which he offered to repurchase once a final agreement with the unions is reached.

Mr. Murdoch lost more than \$100 million when he first owned the Post from 1976 to 1988. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) forced him to sell it in 1988 under a regulation prohibiting ownership of a newspaper and television station in the same market.

He offered to buy back the Post on March 25, saying he was prepared to take some losses at the newspaper if they could be limited.

The Post has lost \$8 million in the past five months and its current annual loss is estimated at \$12 million to \$15 million.

The FCC grants Mr. Murdoch a waiver on its dual-ownership, single-market rule on June 29, clearing the way for the former Australian to proceed with the purchase.

### Financial Markets

**Jordan Times**  
in co-operation with  
**Cairo Amman Bank**

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close	Tokyo Close
Sterling Pound	1.4770	1.4760
Deutsche Mark	1.7298	1.7315
Swiss Franc	1.5299	1.5310
French Franc	5.9065	5.9887**
Japanese Yen	109.35	108.85
European Currency Unit	1.1270	1.1306**

**Eurocurrency Interest Rates** Date: 13/7/1993

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	3.06	3.18	3.37	3.56
Sterling Pound	5.93	5.87	5.75	5.73
Deutsche Mark	7.31	7.12	6.93	6.37
Swiss Franc	4.53	4.50	4.43	4.25
French Franc	8.18	7.75	7.00	6.25
Japanese Yen	3.25	3.18	3.12	3.12
European Currency Unit	8.06	7.51	7.15	6.75

**Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin** Date: 13/7/1993

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6910	0.7000
Sterling Pound	1.0292	1.0543
Deutsche Mark	0.4028	0.4093
Swiss Franc	0.5557	0.4580
French Franc	0.1180	0.1186
Japanese Yen	0.6403	0.6435
Dutch Guilder	0.3580	0.3598
Swedish Krona	0.0870	0.0874
Italian Lira	0.0439	0.0441
Belgian Franc	0.01953	0.01965

**Other Currencies** Date: 13/7/1993

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.8260	1.8550
Lebanese Lira	0.0587	0.0620
Saudi Riyal	0.1657	0.1666
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.2200	2.2900
Qatari Riyal	0.1590	0.1932
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2300
UAE Dirham	0.1890	0.1932
Greek Drachma	0.2990	0.3200
Cypriot Pound	1.3450	1.3750

### LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

**LONDON (R) —** Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

U.S. \$1.00 costs	1.2775/85	1.7215/25	1.9475/85	1.5228/35	35.54/55	5.8710/60	1587/1589	108.80/90	7.9680/780	7.3400/500	6.6850/950
One sterling											
One ounce of gold											

**THE PROFESSIONALS**  
ALWAYS CHOOSE  
THE RELIABLE

PACKING, AIR FREIGHT  
FORWARDING, DOOR-TO-DOOR SERVICES AND DELIVERIES, CUSTOMS CLEARANCE, TICKETS AND RESERVATIONS.

**AMIN KAWAR & SONS**  
TEL: 604676 604696  
P.O. BOX 7806  
AMMAN

**CROWN INTL. EST.**

Packing, shipping  
Forwarding, storage  
worldwide Removals  
Air, Sea and Land

TEL: 66 40 90  
FAX: 69 08 52  
POST: 92 64 87  
Amman-Jordan

**JORDAN MARKET PLACE**

**DANZAS**

INTERNATIONAL DOOR TO DOOR REMOVALS  
GERMAN DRIVERS - AIR - RIDDEN REMOVAL TRUCKS  
YOUR REGULAR LINK TO AND FROM EUROPE  
SPECIALISTS FOR DIPLOMATIC REMOVALS  
IN THE NEAR EAST  
FOR DETAILED INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT  
**EASTERN SERVICES**

OFFICIAL DANZAS AGENT IN JORDAN  
TEL: 621 775 TLX: 23023 FAX: 656 270  
PEACE BUILDING - JABAL LWEIDHEH  
AMMAN - JORDAN

**Parade**  
Italian Restaurant

Live Music  
open for  
lunch & dinner

Abdoun / Near Orthodox  
Club Circle - Jordan Super-  
market Building, 2nd Floor  
Tel: 824677

**STUDIO HAIG**

Professional Quality in  
1 Hour Service  
Develop your colour film at  
our shop and get:-

- \* JUMBO photo size 30% larger
- \* Free enlargement 20 x 30 cm

Shmeisani - Opp. Grindlays  
Bank, Phone: 604042  
Sweifeh tel: 823891

**4 RENT & SALE**

Many villas and apartments are available for rent and sale, furnished or unfurnished.

Also many plots of land are available for sale.

For further details, please call:

**Abdoun Real Estate**  
Tel: 810605/810309  
Fax: 810520

**AVIS**

We try harder.

**SAS**

699-420

**Hisham International Tours**  
"THE RELIABLE NAME IN JORDAN"

Book now & Join our classy summer trips (8) days (7) nights

- \* Istanbul \$800 H/B & tours
- \* Antalya \$ 800 H/B
- \* Turkish Riviera \$800 H/B
- \* Cyprus \$770 B/B
- \* All in 5 star INT'L HTLS

Specialists in Tailor-made Outgoing Tours & Hotel reservations at International & Luxury Hotels in Turkey, Cyprus & Egypt

Our first class services & moderate prices make sense for leisure & business travellers

Tel: 698180/698181, Fax 698307

**PEKING RESTAURANT**

AUTHENTIC CHINESE CUISINE

elegant colorful atmosphere

Mezzanine level open daily

**CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT**

Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket

**Mongolian Barbecue for Lunch Friday only**

Tel: 818214

Come and taste our specialties

Open daily 12:00 - 3:30 p.m.  
6:30 - Midnight

**红房子餐厅**  
120 Authentic Chinese dishes, from all great regional cuisines styles of China. Prepared by our Chinese chefs

Open daily for lunch & dinner

Take away services

Jabal Al Hussein Ministry of Trade & Industrial Ed. Tel. 833884

**MANDARIN RESTAURANT**

Special Chinese Foods  
Skilled Chinese Chefs

Open 12:00-3:00 & 8:00-11:30 daily

Take away is available

Wadi Sa'ra Road  
near Philadelphia Hotel  
Tel: 661922, Amman

Once Tasted Always Loved

**RESTAURANT CHINA**

The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan

1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near Ahlyah Gris School

Take away is available

Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.  
7:00 - Midnight  
Tel: 638968

**The Old Pub**

Pool Table

Happy Hour

FREE Munchies

Reduced Drink Prices

7 - 9 PM Daily

642401

**THE SUMMER TERRACE IS NOW OPEN**

**Valentino**  
RESTAURANT

JABAL AMMAN FIRST CIRCLE  
OPPOSITE THE IRAQI EMBASSY TEL: 824225

For the best for your MONEY...  
ADVERTISE in the

The Inn Place to be..

**Rozana Restaurant**

\* Open air terrace.  
\* Round table for 12-18 guests.  
\* Open 7 days a week

Tel 613572  
2nd circle - Jabal Amman

**SABEEL Hotel Suites**

"homely and intimate"

Tel. 630571 Fax. 630572

**24 HOURS**

Al-Madeneh Al-Murawarah St.  
Next to N°1 traffic lights

**Flamant Restaurant**

FIRST CLASS INDIAN RESTAURANT

Special Executive Luncheons

Take away service available

Open Daily 12:30 - 3:30 pm  
7:30 - 11:30 pm

After the Philadelphia Hotel  
Towards 3rd circle

Tel: 659519 659520

**Jordan Times' JORDAN MARKET PLACE**

**Graffiti Rock Cafe**

Live Band

639197

Couples Only, or Groups of Ladies & Gents

Open Daily

The First Class Hotel in Amman that has a Kitchenette in every room... "Satellite T.V. Reception"

**DAROTEL**

Amman - Tel: 668193  
P.O. Box 9403 - Fax 602434  
Telex 23888 DAROTL JO

**Ideal Residence For Expatriates and Businessmen**



## Khmer Rouge offered government role, proposes joining army

PHNOM PENH (AFP) — Khmer Rouge nominal leader Khieu Samphan proposed Tuesday that his guerrilla force merge with Cambodia's new united armed forces and said his faction would happily accept a role in the coalition government.

"We have proposed to establish a quadripartite army so as to avoid clashes and confrontation in the military field," Mr. Khieu Samphan said.

He said the offer was made during an audience with the Cambodian head of state Prince Norodom Sihanouk "in the spirit of national reconciliation and in response to an appeal from His Royal Highness."

Mr. Khieu Samphan also said the Khmer Rouge would participate "with pleasure" in the new government.

Prime Sihanouk recently offered the recalcitrant faction a government role, a FUNCINPEC official said.

The Khmer Rouge nominal leader told reporters that Prince Ranariddh said his father suggested giving the faction some ministerial posts.

"If such is the case we would accept with pleasure in the spirit of national reconciliation. But for our part we demand no ministerial posts, only the role of counselor," Mr. Khieu Samphan said.

But the FUNCINPEC official dismissed the idea that the

Khmer Rouge's ambitions ran only as far as an advisory role.

"For the time being they say they want an advisory role but they want very much to join the army and government," he said.

The military wings of the three main parties in the new government, FUNCINPEC, the smaller Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party and the former Phnom Penh regime, agreed recently to merge their forces into a new united army.

But the FUNCINPEC official cautioned against premature optimism.

"We have to set some conditions to test their sincerity. If they are sincere, first they should give back Preah Vihear Temple, stop all military activity and open up their zones," he said.

Mr. Khieu Samphan refused to say whether the Khmer Rouge would hand back the 1,000-year-old temple, which it seized on July 7 in a pre-dawn raid.

Speaking to the press after meeting with the deputy head of the U.N. peacekeeping mission Behrooz Sadry and the Q.N. force commander Lieutenant-General John Sanderson, Mr. Khieu Samphan refused to say when the Khmer Rouge would join the Cambodian Armed Forces.

Both U.N. officials were cautious about labelling the Khmer

Rouge leader's proposal a prelude to peace.

"We must keep our hopes high that it is a solution. It's at least the beginning of a dialogue that may lead to a final solution," Mr. Sadry said.

Gen. Sanderson was also hesitant to predict any immediate ease of tension on the battlefield.

"Our position is one of brokers trying to open up a dialogue on behalf of the Cambodian factions. But they have to decide the modalities of this (proposal). They have to decide it at the political level. Then they have to decide it at the military level," he said.

Prince Sihanouk's decision to offer the Khmer Rouge a role in the government came as a surprise as the prince issued a statement last week saying that not a single member of the faction would either participate in the government or work as an advisor to it.

The United States has stated that Khmer Rouge inclusion could be a barrier to aid for the country's cash strapped government.

Mr. Sadry did not wish to comment on whether aid could now be jeopardized.

"It's too premature to talk in terms of their involvement in any kind of government. I think we are just talking now of the beginning of discussions," he said.

The peacekeepers said their concern was how to maintain the current dialogue during the absence of both Khieu Samphan and Prince Sihanouk.

Khieu Samphan fled to Bangkok Tuesday afternoon and the prince was scheduled to leave for North Korea on July 15 and was not expected back until early September.

But Khmer Rouge spokesman Mak Ben and former ambassador to China Chan Youran, who flew into the capital with Mr. Khieu Samphan, will remain here along with two other advisors, Mr. Sadry said.

Mr. Khieu Samphan did not say when he would return.

"But he said he hoped to see me very soon," Mr. Sadry said.

Meanwhile Prince Ranariddh met with fellow co-president of the coalition government Hun Sen to discuss the negotiations with the Khmer Rouge, a FUNCINPEC official said.

The official said he did not think that the Phnom Penh party would raise major objections to the inclusion of their arch foe in the new government.

"The Paris agreement includes all four factions so we have to discuss (the Khmer Rouge's) role," he said, referring to the 1991 peace accord that brought a formal end to Cambodia's civil war.

## Gore vows quick aid for U.S. flood victims

ST. LOUIS, Missouri (Agencies) — The raging Mississippi River began battering an area south of St. Louis after causing widespread devastation in the Midwest, destroying crops and homes and leaving 300,000 people without safe drinking water.

Vice President Al Gore, on a tour of the flood-ravaged river basin, vowed to expedite federal aid to victims.

"It's the worst flooding I've ever seen," Mr. Gore said in St. Louis. Earlier in the day, he told homeowners in Illinois that federal relief could arrive by the following day.

Thousands were forced to evacuate their homes in Des Moines, Iowa because of flooding and the city's water system was tainted by flood water.

Officials said the city could be without potable drinking water for up to a month.

Residents carrying plastic jugs lined up for their five-gallon (19-litre) rations of drinking water in the flood-stricken Des Moines area, and hundreds of midwesterners were inoculated against water-borne diseases.

The rain-swollen Mississippi River and its tributaries continued to swallow up land Tuesday in the upper Midwest as residents and National Guardsmen piled sandbags to try to save homes and businesses.

Damage across the region will far exceed the \$1.2 billion in aid

announced by President Bill Clinton last week. Gov. Terry Branstad said. Gov. Branstad said he will ask the government to declare all of Iowa a disaster area.

The flooding has caused at least 19 deaths, 13 in Missouri. The Red Cross said more than 7,600 homes were damaged or destroyed in Minnesota, Wisconsin, South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Illinois.

No looting has been reported, but some residents still feared losing their belongings. In West Alton, Mo., Michael Payeur refused to leave his waterlogged home and relied on supplies brought to him by boat by his daughter.

"There's looting out here," he said. "They can get in and out."

Water patrolman Don Carnahan navigated the West Alton area with care. "You got to watch the road signs," he said. "They'll sure cut a hole in the boat."

Mr. Gore visited Lemay, Mo., and Grafton, Ill., Monday. The water was so high he had to duck when his boat passed under power lines. He also took a helicopter tour and said in wonder, "you can't even tell where the Mississippi begins and the farmland ends."

Mr. Gore talked to the president by phone and then assured residents there would be a "forceful, coordinated response."

## Russia calls for immediate ceasefire in Abkhazia

MOSCOW (AFP) — Russia called Tuesday for an immediate ceasefire in Georgia's breakaway province of Abkhazia, ahead of a new round of negotiations on the bloody conflict by senior officials from Russia, Georgia and Abkhazia.

Russia was calling on all parties to forge an immediate agreement "as Moscow did on June 26," said Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Sergei Yastrebinski.

Speaking after a first round of negotiations held Monday failed to bring a truce, the spokesman deplored "the pursuit of this murderous conflict."

Georgian officials have alleged Russian troops are backing the

separatists in their independence struggle, which has killed at least 1,000 people since it broke out 11 months ago.

A second round of three-way talks was scheduled to take place later Tuesday.

Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev and State Minister Viktor Barnakov are to join Georgian and Abkhaz officials in the talks.

Deputy Foreign Minister Boris Pastukov, Russia's representative at Monday's round, said the talks broke down over the Abkhaz separatists' demand to bring their parliament back to the province's capital Sukhumi after the withdrawal of Georgian forces.

## U.S. to press N. Korea to open nuclear sites

GENEVA (R) — The United States is expected to press North Korea Wednesday to accept international inspections of two suspected nuclear sites — or face the threat of U.N. sanctions.

The two countries, ideological foes for almost half a century, are resuming talks after a break of just over a month in a bid to defuse the crisis over Pyongyang's announcement in March that it was pulling out of a key nuclear treaty.

The earlier talks, held at the United Nations in New York, ended with North Korea agreeing to suspend its threat to withdraw from the 1968 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), a bulwark against the spread of atomic weapons.

But, in the run-up to this week's new round, U.S. leaders have issued a series of stern warnings that North Korea is heading

for trouble if it continues to refuse access to suspected nuclear facilities.

At issue are two sites near its Yongbyon reactor, 95 kilometres north of Pyongyang. Washington suspects materials for nuclear weapons are being developed there but North Korea says they are secret conventional military sites.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher told North Korea last week that Washington would not let the talks drag on indefinitely. South Korea has accused the North of stalling to gain time for its nuclear plans.

"If we can't resolve the problem... we'll turn to the U.N. and see it addressed at the U.N.," Mr. Christopher said, adding that the United States had already begun to consider what kind of sanctions might be imposed.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Gonzalez names new cabinet

MADRID (R) — Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez Tuesday named a new 18-member cabinet, a month after he was returned to office in a general election, a government spokesman said. The new cabinet included eight new ministers with three women and six independents. Four ministers retained their posts. Deputy Prime Minister Narcis Serra was among those who kept their jobs. He will take on additional responsibilities for coordinating economic policy. Mr. Serra and Foreign Minister Javier Solana, who also retained his post, were the only two to have been in the cabinet since the Socialists first came to power in 1982. Mr. Gonzalez created a new Ministry of Commerce and Tourism, which will take over some responsibilities from the Industry Ministry, and a new Ministry of the Prime Minister's Office, which will combine the roles of the government spokesperson and the prime ministerial secretariat.

### French court confirms scandal sentence

PARIS (R) — A French appeal court Tuesday confirmed a four-year prison sentence on the former head of the National Blood Bank, Michel Garretta, for knowingly distributing AIDS-contaminated blood products to haemophiliacs. The court, ruling after an appeal hearing of former health officials accused of involvement in France's worst modern health scandal, also confirmed that Jean-Pierre Allain, ex-director of transfusion research, should serve four years with two suspended. Mr. Garretta and Mr. Allain were the principal defendants in a scandal in which some 1,250 haemophiliacs were infected — of whom more than 300 have died. During the six-week hearing, which ended last month and was effectively a retrial, they and two other former health officials faced charges of fraud, criminal negligence and failure to assist persons in danger over the contaminated transfusions in the period up to the end of 1985.

### 14 die in S. Africa township violence

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Gunmen firing at random from a moving car killed 14 people and injured 11 in two South African black townships on the eve of renewed peace talks in the Johannesburg region Tuesday. Police spokesman Piet Van Deventer said nine were killed on the streets of adjoining Sebokeng and Evaton townships, 50 kilometres south of Johannesburg. Another five victims died of their wounds in Sebokeng Hospital following the shooting spree which erupted at 7:45 p.m. Monday. The violence happened on the eve of talks to Johannesburg between Nelson Mandela's African National Congress (ANC) and its main black political rival, Mangosuthu Buthe's Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP).

### Malawi talks collapse

LILONGWE (AFP) — Talks between the Malawi government and the opposition on the formation of the interim national council to run the country until general elections have collapsed, opposition and government sources indicated Tuesday. It was unclear when the talks between the opposition coalition of the Public Affairs Committee (PAC) and the government's Presidential Committee on Dialogue (PCD), which began late last month, would resume. At a crucial meeting on June 21, the opposition and the government agreed the PAC would operate alongside parliament and the cabinet to oversee a transition to multi-party politics through the National Executive Council (NEC) and the National Consultative Council (NCC), following the rejection of continued single-party rule to a referendum on June 14. But when parliament met on June 29, it simply withdrew a bill to legalise the formation of the two councils, without explanation.

### Police checkpoint attacked in Karachi

KARACHI (AFP) — Unidentified men opened fire on a police checkpoint in Karachi Tuesday wounding a policeman as tensions mounted following the arrest of dozens of opposition supporters in the southern Pakistani city. Vehicles and a petrol station were set ablaze in unrest overnight Tuesday after the arrest since Sunday of more than 150 activists of the Mohajir Qaumi Movement (MQM), an ethnic party based in the southern province of Sindh. Police chief R.K. Brohi told a press conference. One constable was shot in the chest in the attack on the police post but was out of danger, hospital sources said. The MQM is campaigning for by-elections scheduled to be held on July 22. The local administration in the MQM's urban strongholds of Karachi and Hyderabad has refused to allow electoral rallies and protests have turned into confrontations with the police.

### Clinton approval rating set at 45%

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. President Bill Clinton failed to improve his job rating with the public despite apparently overshadowing foreign leaders at the Tokyo summit, according to a CNN/USA Today/Gallup poll. It said that on June 30 before last week's Group of Seven summit, Mr. Clinton has a job approval rating of 46 per cent while 47 per cent disapproved. The rest did not have an opinion. In the new poll, July 9 through 11, his approval was one percentage point lower at 45 per cent, while 48 per cent disapproved of his handling of the presidential job. The poll of 1,002 adults had a margin of error of plus or minus three percentage points. On Mr. Clinton's handling of the economy, 60 per cent disapproved while 34 per cent approved in the latest survey, similar to June 30 when 35 per cent approved and 59 per cent disapproved. This was despite Mr. Clinton's widely publicised claims at the summit that progress made on a tariff reduction plan and on trade with Japan would help create U.S. jobs.



Aerial photograph of burning houses Tuesday after an earthquake measuring 7.8 on the Richter Scale hit Okushiri Island in northern Japan (AFP photo)

## 240 feared dead in Japanese quake

ESASHI, Japan (AFP) — Two hundred and forty people were feared dead Tuesday after a major earthquake rocked northern Japan, triggering tidal waves, landslides and fires on the island of Okushiri northwest of here.

The tremor, the strongest to hit Japan in 10 years, devastated a wide area around the Sea of Okhotsk with at least three people reported dead or missing in the Russian far east and ships sunk in South Korea, reports from Moscow and Seoul said.

Officials said Tuesday 71 people died and another 169 were missing and feared dead.

Hundreds of rescue workers began arriving on Okushiri in the afternoon, almost 18 hours after the undersea quake, measuring 7.8 on the open-ended Richter Scale, struck the west coast of Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost island.

Fires sparked by broken gas lines devoured at least half of the 680 houses in Aomae, a fishing port on the southern tip of Okushiri.

"About 60 per cent of the town was completely destroyed and half of the town was on fire when I flew over it," a helicopter pilot said.

The island was battered by a series of Tsunami, or tidal waves, up to five metres high overnight, sweeping away houses, boats and cars.

The first quake, which had an epicentre north of Okushiri, occurred late Monday and was followed by a series of aftershocks.

Many of the initial victims were buried in the two-storey Hotel Yoyoso, which collapsed in the quake. Others were feared killed as tidal waves swept away houses and also destroyed a breakwater in the port.

"I saw the river's water level rise suddenly," one man said in a televised interview as he stood in front of the remains of his bat-

tered home, which had been moved several metres.

"I ran away but the water ran faster. Then I fell down and was drinking salty water," he said.

The island's airport was closed and ferry services linking Okushiri with the port of Esashi on Hokkaido were suspended.

In South Korea, rescue workers said the earthquake threw up a three-metre tidal wave, which hit the east coast of the country.

Fifteen fishing boats, including the 10-tonne Yongbokho, were sunk and 11 damaged after the tidal wave hit the Kangwan province towns of Sampo and Sokcho, some 170 kilometres north-west of Seoul, as well as Ulong Island in the Sea of Japan.

Reports from Moscow indicated at least three dead on Russia's far eastern coast. Communities around the coastal town of Nakhodka were evacuated.

In Esashi, some 60 kilometres southeast of Okushiri, rescue workers were frantically ferrying supplies of fresh vegetables and rice to a Maritime Safety Agency patrol vessel moored offshore.

In the parking lot at the Esashi ferry terminal, several cars were piled up or overturned after being hit by big waves. Another 30 vehicles were believed to have been tossed into the harbour.

Masamori Hirose, a 52-year-old owner of a souvenir shop, said he was driving his car past the town hall when the quake hit.

"The car started rolling. Then I was suddenly getting tossed around really violently," he said, adding that there was a flash in the sky before the city blacked out.

Iatoru Sakamoto, a local sanitation official, said he was in his house at the time of the quake.

"I felt a big jolt. I ran outside and was thrown up and down," he said. Cracks could be seen along the highway between Esashi and

Hakodate, some 50 kilometres away, although traffic was still running normally.

Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa interrupted campaigning for Sunday's election and was expected to arrive in Hakodate later Tuesday before travelling to the island Wednesday.

"It was extremely awful and sad," Mr. Miyazawa said.

Hundreds of police and Self-Defence Forces troops started rescue operations before dawn and began flying to Okushiri by helicopter in the afternoon after being delayed by bad weather.

Katsumasa Abe, a professor at the Earthquake Research Institute of Tokyo University, said the tremor was one of the strongest ever in the area and greater than one in 1983 which claimed 104 lives and injured 163.

Another tremor in Hokkaido in January also measured 7.8 on the Richter Scale, leaving one dead and more than 350 injured.

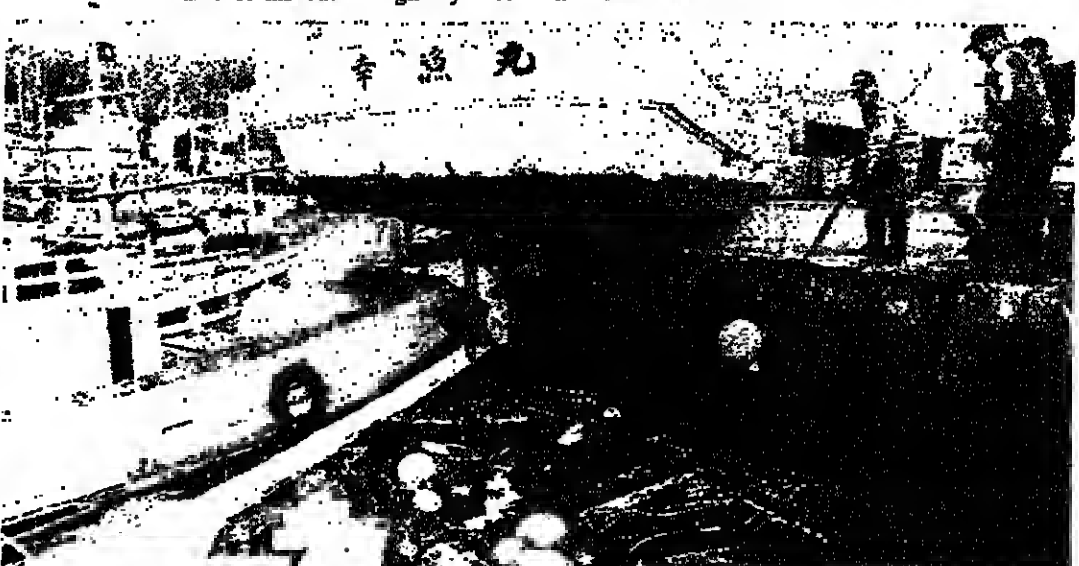
The powerful earthquake that jolted northern Japan Monday has rekindled fears of a repeat of the 1923 quake disaster that left 100,000 dead in the capital.

In Tokyo, where the earth periodically shakes, experts have been on the alert for the past two months due to the intensity of seismic activity in the Izu-Hanto peninsula, 100 kilometres south-west of the capital.

Some 9,000 jolts, more than 170 of them felt by the populace, have been recorded.

"We expect the tremors to continue in the Izu peninsula and special caution is necessary for earthquakes with a large intensity," said Kiyoo Mogi, chairman of the Construction Ministry's coordination committee for earthquake prediction.

A major earthquake in the Izu-Hanto peninsula would cause widespread damage in Tokyo, according to Japanese seismologists.



A boat sits on the pier after the earthquake triggered a tidal wave which hit the northern coast of Japan (AFP photo)

## Nigeria Social Democrats reject fresh polls

ABUJA (R) — Nigeria's Social Democratic Party rejected Tuesday proposed new presidential elections, saying the military government should accept the self-declared victory of the SDP candidate in last month's annulled poll.

"Now they (the government) have opted for fresh elections we are not ready to participate in fresh polls," Tony Anenih, chairman of the centre-left SDP, told Reuters. "There was nothing wrong with the last election."

With less than seven weeks to go before a planned handover of power to civilians, Nigeria's military rulers said Monday fresh voting was needed following the annulment of the June 12 ballot.

An SPD boycott could force the government to delay for a fourth time its transition to civilian rule programme.

"Let it be known that there is no alternative to the choice of a president for this country other than by democratic election," said a communiqué issued after Monday's meeting of senior military and police officers.

Mr. Anenih, a former senior police officer, accused the government of trying to prolong its

rule of Africa's most populous nation.

SDP candidate Moshood Abiola claimed victory in the scrapped election that led to the country's most serious political turmoil in a decade.

"I don't think the government in thinking of having elections between now and Aug. 27," Mr. Anenih said, referring to the handover date.

He said he believed the government was hoping the SDP and its sole rival, the centre-right National Republican Convention (NRC) would ask for an extension to the transition date in order to prepare for the new poll.

"That is the hidden agenda," he said.

The military leadership rejected a proposal on an interim government which the two army-created political parties had agreed to after military President Ibrahim Babangida told them to either choose fresh polls or a temporary administration.

Mr. Anenih said the SDP opted for the interim arrangement for the sake of peace and "because it was the only way out."

NRC officials said the party's leaders would meet Tuesday to

consider the government's decisions.

The NRC had sought a fresh election and blamed its poor performance in the June poll on low voter turnout.

"They are ready for elections because they were the loser," Mr. Anenih said.

On Monday, the military leadership said it was committed to handing power to civilians next month.

"The armed forces wish to reassure our citizens of their commitment to 27th of August and to make this administration the last military administration in the country," said the statement issued by the senior officers.

The generals called on the two political parties to help them achieve the transition.

The government had said it scrapped last month's elections, considered by local and foreign observers to have been generally free and fair, because of malpractices, including bribery of officials.

Lagos and other southwestern Nigerian cities where Mr. Abiola is widely supported were hit by massive anti-government protests last week.

## Rome shows open with bold colours, jungle prints

ROME (R) — Rome's autumn and winter haute couture fashion shows opened with loud bursts of tangerine and pink, and binding zebra prints straight from the local zoo. In a show that had models dancing and hosing down the catwalk, designer Oreste Testa offered warm colours and prints with a jungle heat. His zoo prints — on everything from Sherlock Holmes caps to waistcoats — left the audience slack-jawed. Models strode down the runway like kings of the jungle in zebra-stripe jackets with jet-black arms. Leopard spots were everywhere — even on waistcoats worn under green corduroy morning coats. "I made these clothes to save the beasts," said Testa, who wore a simple khaki suit and leopard-print tie. "I'd much rather see beasts printed on clothes than dead," he told Reuters. Midway through the show, Testa abandoned the safari and trekked to the Scottish highlands, mixing tartans, tweeds, corduroy and velvet with bravado. Testa said he believes velvet possesses a magical element touching it is like dreaming. "It's like stroking a kind of glorious skin," he said. Velvet tartan jackets, chalk-stripe double-breasted suits, and velvet corduroy trousers played the leading role in his fall and winter collection. Testa also played daringly with plaids, using as many as five different tartans for one jacket. He often paired the mismatched jackets with checked tweed trousers.

## Thieves rob prison in S. Africa

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — Three brazen thieves held up the bail office at a prison, taking 70,000 rand (\$21,000), a newspaper reported. The three armed robbers entered the Diepkloof Prison in the Soweto black township Sunday without raising suspicion. They then forced an official in the bail office to open the safe and they made off with all the cash, the Citizen newspaper said. Police and prison officials said they could not explain how armed robbers entered the prison and the bail office without being noticed. Crime is rampant throughout South Africa, but the latest robbery appeared to be a first. Danie Immelman, a spokesman for the Prisons Department, said he had never before heard of a prison being robbed. In another unusual criminal case, police said they had arrested two men and recovered a stolen truck that was carrying a radioactive soil testing device. However, the device itself remained missing. Police spokesman Warrant Officer Andy Peike said there was still no sign of the device, which could unleash radiation in a five-kilometre radius if damaged. The vehicle was stolen last Thursday. Car and truck hijackings have become common around Johannesburg.

## China's richest village thwarts theft of \$20m

HONG KONG (AFP) — A cashier in China's richest village disappeared, taking with him nearly \$20 million worth of shares, a report said Tuesday. But authorities in Lower Takeng, in the Longgang district of the Shenzhen special economic zone, managed to save most of their shares and deposits worth 115 million yuan (\$20 million) after the cashier vanished about two weeks ago, the China News Service reported. The villagers did not realise most of the investments were in the cashier's name, the report said. The cashier, who was not identified, had obtained a U.S. passport in December last year. He has been arrested. Lower Takeng became China's richest village after land sales for the construction of a nuclear power plant at Daya Bay, a joint venture between China and Hong Kong, in 1982. The 59 villagers invested 600,000 yuan from land sales in an investment company, which listed on the Shenzhen Stock Exchange in June 1991.

## Woman who cut off husband's organ seeks divorce

WASHINGTON (R) — An American woman charged with cutting off her husband's penis has filed for divorce, the Washington Post reported Tuesday. In her suit in the state of Virginia, Leonor Gallo Bobbitt said her husband, John Wayne Bobbitt, was guilty of "marital sexual abuse." He denied it in a statement, calling the accusations "desperate excuses" for her action. Mr. Bobbitt has recuperated a 9-1/2 hour operation to reattach his penis and has hired a lawyer to consider selling his story. The Washington Post said. His wife's lawyer told the Post that she has not ruled out doing the same. Police reported three weeks ago that she cut off her husband's penis as he slept, alleging that he had raped her.



## Marseille boss accuses investigators of using 'gangster' methods

PARIS (AP) — Bernard Tapie, the Olympique Marseille president, Tuesday accused investigators of using "gangster" methods in the soccer bribes scandal that has left his political ambitions increasingly exposed.

The former government minister launched his attack as Marseille player Jean-Jacques Eydelie was released from custody, a day after embarrassing his club leaders by going back on his denial of involvement in attempts to bribe Valenciennes players.

Eydelie remains charged with corruption. Jean-Pierre Bernes, the Marseille general manager, is the only person left in custody of the five people charged. He still denies offering money to three Valenciennes players on the eve of a league match.

Mr. Tapie said, in an intervention with the Marseille newspaper Le Soir, that "no serious, real proof of Olympique Marseille's guilt" had been found by investigators.

The outspoken Marseille owner also cast doubt on the way in which Eydelie changed his evidence to investigating magistrate Bernard Beffy.

"The methods being used to make people talk are those normally used by the big gangsters," he added.

He added: "The means by which custody orders, seizure of documents and raids have been carried out are unique in police history."

Mr. Tapie faces a related investigation into claims that he offered money to Valenciennes coach Boro Primorac to take the blame for the bribes scandal.

He has denied the accusations and countered in the interview that despite the increasing pressure he had no intention of quitting the club, French champions and winners of the European Championship Cup.

"I will not abandon my ship

until it is safely back in port," he said. "Now is the time when he needs even greater means to face" the crisis.

Mr. Tapie admitted that the front page revelations that have kept the French public spell-bound for the past two weeks were taking a toll on Marseille's image.

He told Le Soir that of the 500 cocorons prepared to take a shareholding in the champion club before the bribes inquiry was launched only about 20 remained.

The revelations have already had a negative effect on his political dealings.

Mr. Tapie, a businessman tycoon turned politician, was minister of urban affairs in the last Socialist government. He is said to have ambitions to become mayor of Marseille on the back of the football club's success as a launchpad for a return to the national political stage.

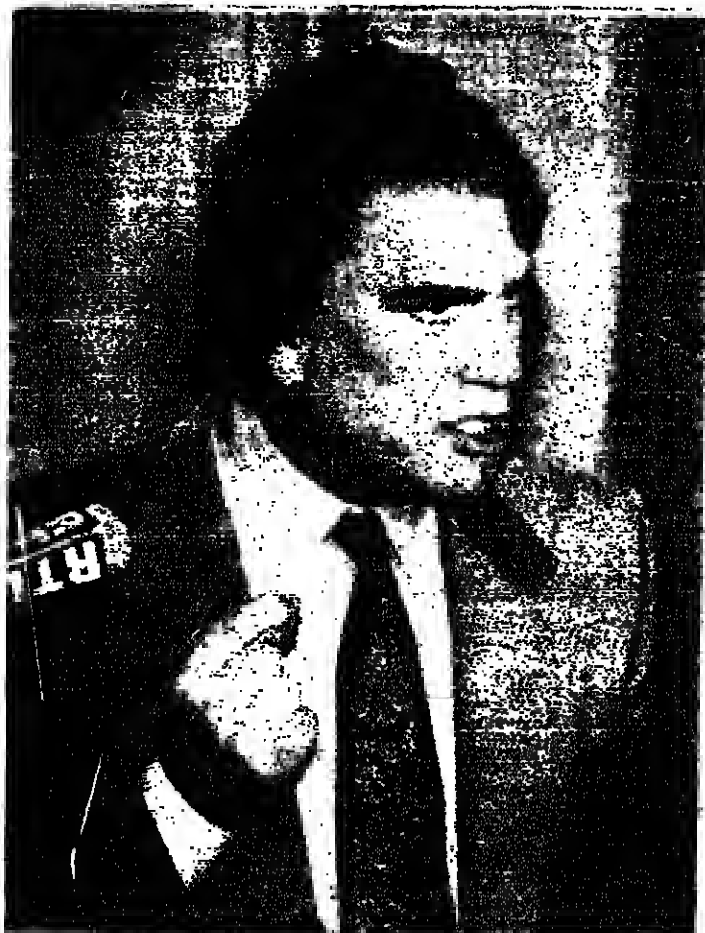
But last week Socialist Party leader Michel Rocard called off a meeting with its Radical Left Movement ally, because Mr. Tapie was scheduled to be among the radicals' delegation.

Mr. Rocard's decision has caused a split between the two parties. But the former prime minister justified this by saying: "It would only have become a Rocard-Tapie press conference on Olympic Marseille."

Edouard Balladur, the current prime minister, has also criticized football's leaders for displaying "a disgraceful example" to the nation's youth.

Eydelie's decision to change his evidence clearly astounded and embarrassed the Marseille club hierarchy.

Bernes lawyer, Jean-Louis Pelletier, said the decision to free Eydelie on bail was "a reward" for the turnaround. Eydelie's change came, though, just after his wife told investigators that



Bernard Tapie

Bernes had pressured her husband into offering the bribes.

Pelletier joined the attack on the way in which the investigation was being handled in Valenciennes by Judge Beffy and state prosecutor Eric de Montgolfier.

He said he would apply Tuesday for the case to be transferred. Eydelie said through his lawyer Patrick Lefevre that players were increasingly being manipulated by their club owners.

Mr. Lefevre said this kind of scandal "happens more often in Argentina and Italy where all the games are fixed."

"My client considers that this affair has gone over the heads of the players who are manipulated by the leaders of football clubs," added the lawyer.

Evidence of other attempts to

buy matches, based on Eydelie's new account, will be passed to the prosecution department in Marseille, the Valenciennes prosecutor said.

Jean-Jacques Eydelie did raise a rather dubious system, said Mr. De Montgolfier, in giving an account of a meeting between the player and the investigating magistrate.

"The most serious elements, though not very substantial for the moment, naturally concern his club."

Mr. De Montgolfier added: "Eydelie gave an overall impression of an environment that was so unappealing, that at one stage the magistrate asked him: 'Are there any matches that are not fixed?' His response was 'I think so.'"

## Tour de France Riders ponder Indurain's invincibility

VILLARD-DE-LANS, France (R) — The mountains hove into view at the Tour de France Tuesday but riders had their sights instead on the towering stature of the apparently invincible Miguel Indurain.

The Spaniard grabbed back the leader's yellow jersey in Monday's ninth stage with one of the devastating time trial performances for which he is famed.

It was the sixth time the yellow jersey had changed hands in this year's race but riders spent their rest day pondering whether there was even a remote chance of it finding a new owner before the Tour ends in Paris on July 25.

Indurain, winner of the Tour for the past two years, seems firmly in control even before the race crosses its first mountain pass Wednesday with the tough stage from Villard-De-Lans to Serre-Chevalier in the Alps.

His perennial rival Claudio Chiappucci of Italy, relegated to 14th place more than five minutes behind, had no doubts about it.

"Of course I will attack him in the mountains," he said. "I couldn't do otherwise. But you can't forget Indurain will have another time trial just before Paris."

"I'm very disappointed but I think that beating him is practically impossible."

Before the race started, Indurain seemed to have four serious rivals — Chiappucci, world champion Gianni Bogno of Italy and the Swiss pair of Alex Zülle and Tony Rominger.

Of these, only Bugno is relatively close, fourth overall and two minutes 32 seconds down.

Bugno, while not sounding over-confident, was not quite prepared to accept that the race was over.

"For me and for the climbers, the Tour starts tomorrow," he said. "I hope it won't be just racing for second place."

But he acknowledged Indurain's supremacy against the clock. "We have to admit once and for all that he's in a class of his own in time trials," the Italian said.

"He's much too strong and once you accept that principle, you can't be too disappointed."

"The one thing I regret is that he's the same age as me. If things had been better, God would have put me in competition with his brother."

Curiously, Monday's time trial at the Lac De Madine had an Indurain first and last.

Younger brother Prudencio was 17th, 17 minutes 48 seconds behind the champion and would probably have been eliminated on time delay had Miguel not lost several seconds after a puncture.

Former champions Laurent Fignon, who is 37th, and Greg Lemond, not taking part, believe Indurain could have problems in the mountains if all his rivals persistently attack.

But both said they feared everyone would tacitly accept Indurain's invincibility and watch each other as they eyed the chances of finishing second or third.

Dutch rider Eric Breukink, who started as an outsider but is now Indurain's closest rival at one minute 35 seconds, has already said he would not attack in the next two tough mountain stages in the Alps.

"If we come out of the Alps with the same time gap, I could attack in the Pyrenees," he said. "In the Alps the important thing will be not to lose time."

The only rider playing down Indurain's prospects in Indurain himself: "Everything starts now," he said. "Chiappucci is a long way back but he's on his favourite terrain."

"Bugno is dangerous because he's a lot more relaxed than usual."

"The decision will be made in the next two days. No-one



Miguel Indurain

knows, me no better than anyone else, how your body will react to passing suddenly from the flat to the mountains."

"For 10 days we've been riding at 45 kph on average. One bad day in the mountains and you could lose minutes."

"Everyone will want to attack me on Wednesday and I'm afraid I won't be able to reply. I'm heavy. I don't have the same assets as Chiappucci, Bugno and Rominger who carry 10 or 15 kg less than me up the climbs."

It is the same old Indurain

refrain but, in the past, he has proved a much better climber than he cares to admit and he has the invaluable support of his Banesto team, packed with mountain experts.

Davide Boifava, manager of Chiappucci's Carrera team, has a totally different way of looking at it.

"The course was made for Indurain. They've got half way the Tour before it got halfway," he said. "We can sit back in our armchairs and wait quietly till we reach Paris."

## Sydney welcomes IOC report, but remains cautious

SYDNEY (R) — Olympic bid officials Tuesday welcomed a technical report which put Sydney firmly ahead in the chase for the 2000 games but warned their quest was "still not in the bag."

"We are pleased with the result but I think it is also important to bring into it a note of caution," Bruce Baird, the senior politician in charge of the Australian bid, told reporters.

Mr. Baird said although Barcelona and Atlanta were both ranked by Olympic inspectors as the best technical bids for the 1992 and 1996 games, Salt Lake City was also ranked first technically for the 1998 Winter Olympics but lost out to the Japanese city of Nagoya.

"It (Salt Lake City) nearly went out in the first round of voting, the same could happen to us," Mr. Baird said.

The International Olympic Committee's (IOC) technical report, released officially Tuesday

after a draft version was leaked last week, said the Sydney bid exceeded the IOC criteria for the Olympic facilities.

"If you look at the 23 things that matter on the technical side, the Sydney bid is bloody nearly perfect," one IOC official told Reuters in London.

But Mr. Baird said the games venue, to be decided on Sept. 23 in Monte Carlo, was still not in the bag. "The numbers are tight and anybody that suggests otherwise is fooling themselves," he said.

Mr. Baird said he still believed Peking was Sydney's major opponent, although Manchester came out more favourably than the Chinese capital in the IOC technical report.

The other cities in the six-way race for the games are Berlin, Istanbul and Bratislava.

The reports, compiled by a 11-man IOC inquiry team which visited the bidding cities in March

and April, is intended as a guideline for the IOC members when they vote in September.

Mr. Baird said the release of the report came at a good time as many IOC delegates were visiting bidding cities in the northern hemisphere's summer, taking attention away from Sydney which has already hosted visits by more than 60 of them.

The technical report placed a number of question marks against the present suitability of Peking and was critical of the city's low standard of environmental protection and plans to house athletes in tower blocks rising to 22 storeys.

Manchester and Berlin fared reasonably well, while doubts were raised about Istanbul.

The report was scathing about rank outsider Bratislava, where the general standards were "currently below what is expected of an Olympic bid."

Mr. Baird said the report should do the talking for the Sydney bid, avoiding and slanging match with other bidding cities.

"The report says it all. The report shows by comparing one city to another, that we come out as the best and for that we make no apologies but does not mean we don't have to do a lot of strong work (lobbying) in between."

The report said Sydney had an overwhelming number of points in its favour. These included its safe environment, widespread support from governments, businessmen and environmental

groups and the compact nature of the bid.

Competitors in 14 sports will be able to walk to venues.

Australian bookmakers were less cautious than the Sydney bid officials in putting the city as clear favourite at 6-4 on to win the Olympics with Peking at 5-4 against and Manchester at 5-1 against.

Olympic chief Juan Antonio Samaranch admitted Monday he was upset about the leak of a technical report on the six cities bidding to stage the 2000 Summer Olympic Games.

The IOC president, asked about the leak on his arrival to visit venue candidates Manchester, said: "I was upset, yes."

But he added it would make no difference to the bidding process.

When reporters suggested to Mr. Samaranch that Sydney would be the Olympic venue, he said: "There are 90 members of the IOC — I don't vote — who will make the final decision."

"I don't know if it is Sydney, Peking, Manchester, Berlin, Bratislava or Istanbul. We have many members and they are visiting all the cities. The decision will be made on Sept. 23 in Monaco."

Organisers of Peking's Olympics 2000 bid said Tuesday they were undaunted despite an IOC inspectors' report voicing a number of concerns.

"We don't think there is anything in the report that is dis-

advantageous to us," Wu Zhongyuan, spokesman for Peking 2000 Olympic Games Bid Committee, said. "We are absolutely filled with confidence."

Mr. Wu said the report, which he called "relatively objective," pointed out China's advantages and wherever a shortcoming was mentioned acknowledged the organisers were already aware of it.

"The report pointed out that we are aware of the problems and have made concrete plans to overcome them," he said.

"In areas where we lag we can certainly catch up by the year 2000."

Insufficient foreign language speakers and an inadequate telecommunications network were drawbacks which would need to be addressed, the report said.

By contrast, the inspectors were impressed by Peking's ability to house all IOC members and other Olympic administrators in one hotel.

"They liked our idea of 'one big family,'" Mr. Wu said. "They were impressed by the support from the people and the government."

Manchester fared "extremely well". Manchester officials said Tuesday they had fared "extremely well" in the IOC inspectors' technical report.

### CAR FOR SALE

1988 Subaru St. wagon, blue, like new 4WD, turbo, loaded with options American plates. \$5500.  
Tel. 821586 or 819943

### FOR RENT

(Fully Furnished Deluxe Apartment)  
Two bedrooms, living room, family room, new carpet, quiet area, nice view.  
Location: Umm Uthainah area, behind Umm Uthainah commercial market.  
Tel. 655470  
from 8 a.m.-11 a.m.  
and from 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

### GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF  
TAMMAM HIRSH  
©1992 Tammam Hirsh Services, Inc.

#### HIGH ROAD, LOW ROAD

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♠ K Q 6 3

♥ A 10 7 5 3 2

♦ A 6

WEST EAST

♠ 7 6 4 2 ♠ K 10 9 3

♥ 4 ♥ 7 6 2

♦ K Q J 4 ♦ 8 6

♣ Q J 7 2 ♣ K 10 9 3

SOUTH

♠ A J 5

♥ A J 10 5

♦ 9

♣ 8 5 4

The bidding:

South West North East

1 ♣ Pass 2 NT Pass

3 ♣ Pass 4 NT Pass

5 ♣ Pass 7 ♣ Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♠

There are hands where you have more than one way to make the contract. Sometimes, the line you choose is dictated by the opening lead. Consider this example from the recent European Junior Championships.

Seven hearts was reached by several teams. On the auction shown, two no trump was a forcing raise in hearts and three diamonds prom-

ised a singleton. Since North knew that the club lower would go on the ace of spades, the grand slam was a good shot.

West led a club and South made short work of the hand. Declarer won, cashed the king of spades and ace of diamonds, then ruffed a diamond. After cashing the ace of spades for a club discard from the table, declarer crossruffed the hand, scoring in all two spades, a diamond and a club and nine trump tricks via ruffing four black losers in dummy and five diamonds in the closed hand—13 tricks in all.

Against the same grand slam, a trump was led at another table. Now declarer could no longer collect enough tricks through a crossruff. But another road was open.

After winning the opening lead in hand, declarer cashed the ace of diamonds and ruffed a diamond. The king of spades provided the entry for a second diamond ruff, a club was discarded on the ace of spades and dummy was entered with the ace of clubs for another diamond ruff. Declarer cashed the ace of hearts, crossed to the board with a club ruff and drew the last trump, and dummy took the last two tricks with high diamonds. Making seven-

**AL DALAL ORIENTAL WEAR**  
and perfumes for women and men  
in Amman Forte Grand Hotel.  
The best and cheapest in Jordan

### FLAT FOR RENT

Ground floor, three bedroom flat in a prime location in Abdoun, overlooking a nice view. Private front and backyard garden and a private garage - 200 sq. metres.  
Contact tel.: 822418 - 825916

T O D A Y	Cinema	Tel.: 677420	Cinema	Tel.: 699238	Cinema	Tel.: 634144	Cinema	Tel.: 675571	Cinema	Tel.: 625155
	CONCORD	PLAZA	PHILADELPHIA	Nabil Al Mashini Theatre	AHLAN THEATRE					
	<b>DELINQUENTS</b> Shows: 3:00, 6:30, 10:30	<b>STALLONE — IN Dolby Stereo</b>	<b>Al Pacino — in SCENT OF A WOMAN</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:15, 6:15, 9 p.m.	For the first time in Amman you have a date with the National Palestinian Theatre — the Gaza Strip — in a play entitled: <b>The Assassination of Hantshah</b> by artist Saeed Bitar Shows on Friday and Saturday, June 4 and 5 at 8:30 p.m. Please book seats in advance	<b>AHLAN NABIL AND HISHAM THEATRE</b> The theatre will be closed in preparation for "Ahlam Arab Summit" play which will be shown at the Jerash Festival for Culture and Arts.					
	<b>NOWHERE TO RUN</b> Shows: 12:00, 5:00, 8:30	<b>CLIFFHANGER</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:15, 5, 6:45, 8:30, 10:30								

BERMUDA • BAHAMAS • GRAN CAYMAN • MIAMI • COZUMEL • SAN BLAS • ISLAS BAHAMAS • MARCA • JAMAICA • NASSAU • CANGUN • ST. THOMAS • MARTINIQUE • BONAIR

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES ON CRUISE SHIPS

5,000 Employments in the Caribbean

Positions available: Administrative Staff, Pool Attendants, Dining Room Staff, Shop Staff, Hostesses, Bellboys, Cleaners, GP-Repairmen, Room Stewards, Cruise Staff, Receptionists, Seamen, Electricians, and many other positions. Previous experience not required for all positions. We are looking for applicants between 18 and 40 years old.

**Salaries:** US \$ 15,000 - US \$ 40,000/year

**Additional Benefits:** • Modern cabins and excellent food free of charge • Tax Free Salary • Extra bonuses • Free training. If you are interested in a well-paid job on a cruise ship, fill the coupon and send it to:

**World Cruise Corporation**  
4700 N.W. 7th Street, Suite 190  
Miami FL 33126, U.S.A.

BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE ☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Miss.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

P.O. Box \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Present Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

DOMINIQUE • ST. CROIX • GUADELOUPE • MAZATLAN



## 6 Muslim countries to send troops to Bosnia safe areas

Combined agency despatches

ISLAMABAD — Six Muslim countries and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) have agreed to supply 7,600 soldiers or more if requested by the United Nations to protect six Muslim security zones in Bosnia, diplomatic sources said Tuesday.

Bosnia's Foreign Minister Haris Silajdzic expressed satisfaction on the decision taken at a two-day meeting in the Pakistani capital of Islamabad by member states of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC).

"We are on the right track. We will secure enough troops," Mr. Silajdzic told AFP. "Now the main question concerns applying the measures adopted."

Pakistan Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Siddique Kanju said the conference had adopted a "plan of action" envisaging concrete steps to mitigate sufferings of the Muslim population and calling for a cessation of hostilities in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

"Specific commitments" have been made by Bangladesh, Iran, Malaysia, Pakistan, Turkey, Tunisia and Palestine — which is recognised as a state by the OIC — in reply to troops in the former Yugoslav state, Mr. Kanju said at the closing session here.

He said the number of troops offered by the participants would be more than the so-called "light option" which calls for stationing 7,600 peacekeepers at six designated safe areas in Bosnia.

"We are prepared to provide additional troops if requested by the United Nations" to enforce peace in the region, where the mainly Muslim Bosnian army is fighting Serbian and Croat forces, he said.

Observers said this is probably the first time the OIC has taken a concrete step on an international issue.

Pakistan, Bangladesh and Malaysia are to dispatch troops immediately to Bosnia, the sources said.

Other countries, such as Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco, have requested U.N. clarification of the troops mandate in Bosnia. Iran and Turkey have expressed

williness to participate in protecting U.N. peacekeepers and their appeal to do so will be transmitted for assessment by U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali, a diplomatic source said.

Iran led the group, offering 5,000 to 10,000 soldiers, another source said.

In Sarajevo, meanwhile, Bosnia's Muslim president and the leader of Bosnian Serbs have signed an accord that could restore utilities to Sarajevo, as shelling reportedly killed 12 people waiting for scarce water.

Bosnian radio quoted the Bosnian army as saying 12 were killed and 15 were wounded Monday when a shell hit a water tap in the suburb of Dobrinja, near the airport.

Radio reported two others killed and three wounded by another shell hitting the old city Monday.

Peter Kessler, of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, reported earlier Monday that the last major source of drinking water in Sarajevo had been cut because of lack of fuel for a pump.

The acute water shortage has raised concerns that disease could spread. "Kessler reported 200 to 300 cases of dysentery daily because of residents using dirty groundwater."

Mr. Kessler said the pump serving a well at the city brewery stopped operating Sunday because of a Serb blockade of fuel. The well had been supplying less than 20 per cent of Sarajevo's normal water needs. The main pumping station is in Serb-controlled territory.

Monday's agreement on restoring water and utilities was signed by Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic and Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic. It was negotiated by Bernard Kouchner, France's former health minister, in separate meetings with the rival leaders.

Mr. Kouchner said U.N. experts would work out the details. He said water, gas and power could be back within a few days if all went well.

Mr. Kouchner said Mr. Izetbegovic agreed to principle to attend peace talks in Geneva if utilities are restored and if the

warring parties cease offensive action during the talks.

In a letter read on Bosnian radio, Mr. Izetbegovic urged Dr. Ghali to back his demands.

Bosnia's collective presidency has refused to accept a three-way partition of their country along ethnic lines as proposed by Serbian and Croatian leaders. It fears the division would leave Muslims jammed into a tiny state between hostile Serbian and Croatian neighbours.

Serbs, who control about 70 per cent of Bosnia, reject Bosnian Muslim proposals to maintain Bosnia as a federation of provinces that would not be formed strictly along ethnic lines.

The New York Times quoted a classified State Department document as saying that the Serb-Croat partition plan could require the settlement of 1.5 million two million people.

The report does not promote or criticise the plan, but predicted that masses of Serbs, Croats and Muslims would move either through choice or coercion if the plan is implemented, the paper reported in Tuesday editions.

Muslim-led government troops were reported Tuesday to have launched a major offensive outside the disputed Bosnian city of Mostar but were on the retreat from advancing Serbs on another front.

Croat sources and U.N. peacekeepers in Mostar in southwestern Bosnia reported that artillery duels and close-quarters battles between Muslims and Croats erupted at the southern entrance to the city early on Tuesday.

"It's an all-out Muslim offensive on our positions," Veso Vego, spokesman for the Croatian defence council (HVO) told Reuters in Zagreb by telephone from Mostar, in south-west Bosnia.

He said thousands of Muslim troops were trying to cut a key road south of the city.

The upsurge of fighting threatened to disrupt U.N. relief operations in Bosnia, and followed warning from peace mediators that the United Nations may have to withdraw from Bosnia if the situation deteriorates.



BAGHDAD PROTEST: Iraqi women demonstrate outside the U.N. office in Baghdad Tuesday against the U.N. inspection team and the U.S. military action grows over the refusal of Iraq to allow U.N. monitoring of two missile sites (AFP photo)

## Jordan steps up anti-drugs battle

By John Halaby  
The Associated Press

AMMAN — Jordan has stepped up its anti-narcotics campaign because of a growing drug abuse problem which authorities are blaming largely on Jordanians who fled Kuwait after the 1990 Iraqi invasion, officials said Tuesday.

Jordan has never had a serious domestic drug problem, although it has traditionally been a transit route for hashish and marijuana being smuggled from Lebanon, Syria and Egypt to Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states.

But "the situation has been changing in the last three years with an increasing number of Jordanians, mainly returnees from the Gulf, abusing drugs," a senior narcotics control official said.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that many of the returnees were well-to-do and brought a drug habit with them from the Gulf.

Sari Nassir, dean of the Sociology Department at Jordan University, said: "Frustration fuelled by the sudden transformation of Jordanian society, as well as severe unemployment, are major factors in the increasing tendency among the returnees to turn to narcotics."

More than 320,000 Jordanians and Palestinians, many with Jordanian nationality, fled Kuwait after the Iraqi invasion, or were expelled after the liberation in February 1991.

Many had been born in the

emirate and had few ties to Jordan.

Unemployment has soared since the returnees flooded into the country, boosting a population already swollen by Palestinian refugees by 10 per cent almost overnight.

Dr. Nassir and government officials conceded that Jordan had economic and social problems before it was burdened with the returnees. But they stressed that the unexpected influx has "exacerbated these problems."

"Most of the cases of consumption and possession we had been 1990 involved hashish," said the drug control official. "But now we find a surprisingly high number of hard-drug cases involving heroin and opium."

A study recently released by Jordan's Anti-Narcotics Bureau said there were 90 known addicts in the Kingdom in 1992 out of a population of 3.5 million, compared with 70 in 1991 and 69 in 1990.

The study did not indicate whether returnees constituted the bulk of the addicts, but social workers said many of the patients were teenagers from former expatriate families.

Social workers said that drug abuse statistics could be much higher than the official figures since hashish is popular in Jordan, and because it is not considered addictive, users do not show up on rehabilitation records.

The study said there were 485, or more than one-third, of them in the last three years.

The study noted that in the last decade, 25,405 kilograms of hashish were seized — more than half of that since 1990.

The figures are alarming Jordan's security forces, who are now intensifying their operations to prevent the spread of illegal drugs in this conservative Kingdom.

Brigadier Hisham Ensour, head of the Anti-Narcotics Bureau, said increased cooperation with security forces in Syria, Saudi Arabia and Egypt had helped smash several major smuggling rings and foil "hundreds of cases of attempted smuggling."

He said increased patrols along the Kingdom's borders with Syria and Saudi Arabia to curb the smuggling of cigarettes and electronic goods has helped the fight against narcotics.

Colonel Adnan Shamayleh, Brig Ensour's deputy, said the price of drugs had gone up in Lebanon and Syria following the recent destruction of marijuana and opium fields in the Syrian-controlled Bekka Valley in eastern Lebanon.

"Limited supplies, coupled with the high risks that the smugglers face, have driven up the prices by at least 50 per cent," making the rewards for the smugglers more attractive, he said.

Col. Shamayleh said the average price in Lebanon of one kilogramme of good quality hashish has gone up from \$1,000 at the start of the year to \$1,500.

## Betselem launches drive against killing of children

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — The Israeli human rights group Betselem, alarmed by apparent public and official indifference, launched a campaign Tuesday to stem the rising toll of Palestinian children killed by Israeli soldiers.

It said Israeli soldiers had killed 232 Palestinians younger than 17 since the Palestinian revolt against Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip began in December 1987.

"Thirty-eight of them were killed during the last six months," Betselem said in a statement at a news conference.

"This is more than double the number of children killed in the entire previous year and of a magnitude unprecedented since the intifada began."

The organisation, which monitors Israeli action in the occupied territories, said it hoped to spur a write-in campaign to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who is also defence minister, to curb the killings.

The army issued a statement saying orders "forbid shooting at children." It said the children were killed mainly when near scenes of confrontation or by soldiers who were not aware of their presence.

Betselem said: "With 232 children dead in five and a half years, the absence of deliberate intent does not detract from or mitigate the gravity of the guilt borne by the security forces."

"The principal reason for the killing of children in such large numbers is a deliberate policy of opening fire in situations in which soldiers are not in mortal danger."

Betselem said the army's own statements showed soldiers' lives were not endangered in at least 32 of the 38 incidents in which children were killed in the past six months.

The organisation documented recent cases in which soldiers killed a 14-year-old boy who was fleeing from a clash in a village, a four-year-old boy who was in a car that turned away from a roadblock and a 20-month-old boy who was sheltering with his father inside a shop.

Betselem said it hoped its campaign — to last one day for each of the 35 children killed in the past six months — would make the Israeli public aware of the level of killing in the occupied territories.

The organisation said it hoped public pressure would lead to a change in open-fire rules to stop soldiers from firing unless their lives are endangered.

Spokesman Eitan told the Associated Press said Betselem was "specifically suggesting the army reduce the permitted use of lethal weapons to life-threatening situations."

A dozen demonstrators holding up posters of dead children at a busy intersection faced about 50 hecklers. Police watching over the demonstration did not prevent hecklers from grabbing and ripping up posters.

Mr. Eitan noted that it was the first time Betselem brought its case to the public. "We have not succeeded in making this a public issue," he said.

A total of 234 Palestinians 15 or under have been killed in clashes with Israeli since the beginning of the uprising in December 1987, among 1,129 Palestinians over all. Palestinians have killed 743 fellow Arabs, most on suspicion of collaborating with Israel, and 140 Israelis have died.

4 Kahane supporters held

Four followers of the late extremist Rabbi Meir Kahane have been arrested as suspects in a grenade attack that killed one Arab man and wounded eight last year, police said Tuesday.

Israeli media said the youths told police the Nov. 16 attack was in revenge for the November 1991 assassination of Rabbi Kahane in a New York City hotel.

The youths, who reenacted the attack for police, were detained before dawn Sunday and ordered held 10 days by court order, reporters and police said. Their names were not published because they are minors.

Three suspects are 17 and a third is 16, the national film news agency said. One is from a Jewish settlement in the occupied West Bank and the others are from Jerusalem, it said.

They belong to the "Kahane Chai" movement, founded after Kahane's assassination, Ben-Ruby said.

In the attack, an army-issue fragmentation grenade was hurled into a narrow alley in the butchers' market in Jerusalem's old walled city, killing Rakez Adqiq, 62, of Al Ram north of Jerusalem and wounding another eight Palestinians.

## Column

### Rumours that Deng has cancer 'totally groundless'

PEKING (AFP) — China denied as "totally groundless" Tuesday a report that paramount leader Deng Xiaoping had undergone surgery for testicular cancer.

"This report is totally groundless," a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said. The Japanese newspaper, Yomiuri Shimbun, had reported Thursday that Mr. Deng, who will be 89 next month, was receiving treatment at home following an operation last month in a Peking hospital.

Mr. Deng was still working, but only on very important matters, the newspaper said. It said news of Mr. Deng's illness and operation were obtained from army officials.

Taiwan's official Central News Agency (CNA), in a dispatch from Peking Tuesday, quoted Cheng Siyuan, 85-year-old vice chairman of the National People's Congress, as denying that Mr. Deng had undergone any cancer treatment.

Mr. Cheng said the CNA report. Cheng also told CNA that Taiwan authorities should allow Mr. Deng's son, Deng Pufang, who heads China's handicapped association, to visit the island.

Cuban stowaways travel to Miami in style

MIAMI, Florida (AFP) — A Cuban family casually boarded a cruise ship and, without paying, enjoyed four days as normal tourists before they arrived here and asked for political asylum, the Royal Caribbean Cruise Line said. "We'll be looking very closely at how they were able to get on," Rich Steck, the company's director of public relations, said Monday. The family of Barbara Ramonell, 39, Vicente Fuster, 45, and their son Moises, 20, and daughter Gretchen, 11, boarded the 2,354-berth Majesty of the Seas in Grand Cayman Island Wednesday, arriving in Miami Sunday. They had previously fled to Grand Cayman from Cuba in a small boat in late March. Shortly after their arrival here, Ms. Ramonell said all four had boarded the ship freely and spent four days dining in the buffet lounge, walking about the ship at night and sleeping in the movie theatre during the day.

"We sat by the pool as if we were normal tourists," she said. Under U.S. law, the cruise line could be fined up to \$3,000 for each stowaway they bring to the United States and is responsible for the family's lodging food and security arrangements while they stay in a Miami hotel pending their asylum hearing.

Ordination of women moves a step closer

LONDON (AFP) — The ordination of women priests within the Church of England moved a step nearer when a committee of MPs and peers voted by 16 to 11 to accept that the ordination of women was "expedient." The Parliamentary Ecclesiastical Committee also voted 17-10 in private session in favour of financial provision for those who felt they had to leave the church because of their opposition to the move. The committee expected to complete its report by the end of July. It will go to both Houses of Parliament in October and will return to the Church of England General Synod in November. Assuming a clear passage, women priests could then be ordained from next year. The committee is said to be trying "very hard" to achieve a unanimous report, despite deep differences. Liberal Democrat MP Simon Hughes, who supports female ordination, said: "Today marks probably the most momentous decision this committee has taken in the 70 years of its existence."

Disney wife, daughter condemn new biography

LOS ANGELES (R) — The widow and daughter of famed animator and theme park creator Walt Disney issued a booklet condemning a new unauthorized biography that claims Disney was an informant for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, an alcoholic and an anti-Semite. The 100-page volume contains sworn statements by family members, former FBI Director William Webster, and former and current Walt Disney Co. employees. Disney's widow, Lillian, and daughter, Diane Disney Miller, decried the book, which was written by author Marc Eliot in his book, "Walt Disney: Hollywood's Dark Prince." Disney died in 1966 at age 65.

## Pro-Israeli militia warns Beirut

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — The commander of Israel's client South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia said Tuesday the Lebanese government would pay a harsh price for any further attacks by guerrillas on Israeli and SLA forces.

"The Lebanese state itself thus will pay the price and not only the Hizbollah organisation, or Ahmad Jibril's organisation," General Antoine Lahd said in remarks broadcast by Israel Radio.

A former Lebanese army officer, Gen. Lahd warned the Lebanese government the response would be harsh if it continued to allow the guerrilla attacks.

Guerrillas have been on alert across Lebanon for several days, anticipating Israel's retaliation for the killing of five Israeli soldiers last week in the year's fiercest attacks.

Israeli and SLA troops have generally avoided military con-

frontations with Lebanon, a party to U.S.-brokered Arab-Israeli peace talks.

Mr. Rabio has vowed to avenge the attacks, but Israeli commentators have said no retaliation is expected until after a U.S. team trying to resuscitate the stalled peace talks departs the region.

Israel meanwhile moved further reinforcements into southern Lebanon.

Three Merkava tanks, three armoured vehicles, four jeeps and seven troop transporters crossed the Israeli-Lebanese border and headed for an Israeli-declared "security zone" in southern Lebanon, a source close to the army reported.

Artillery pieces, along with tanks and armoured vehicles, were moved into the "security zone" over the weekend.

In occupied Jerusalem, U.S. peace talks coordinator Dennis Ross discussed Lebanon with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin

and senior defence and army officials on Tuesday, officials said.

The team was expected to leave the area later in the day or on Wednesday.

On Sunday Mr. Ross carried a warning from Mr. Rabin to Syria, the main power broker in Lebanon, to curb the guerrillas.

Officials hinted Mr. Ross on Tuesday brought Israel's Syrian President Hafez Al Assad's reply to the Rabin warning.

The Lebanon attacks coincided with the arrival of the Ross team, which is trying to resolve an Israeli-Palestinian deadlock in the 20-month-old talks.

In Damascus on Tuesday, Syria welcomed a fresh pledge by President Bill Clinton that the United States would work as a full partner in Arab-Israeli peace talks.

"Therefore it is necessary to give another chance to save the peace process and work to push it on the right direction," wrote the official daily Al Baath.

## Majali

(Continued from page 1)

would have civil defence, public security, health and social centres, said the prime minister.

These centres, he added, will encourage local citizens to take up voluntary work and contribute towards ensuring public safety.

"Public safety does not mean only dealing with the consequences of natural disasters like floods, snow storms and earthquakes, but also day-to-day problems facing the residents of each area," he said.

Citizens will be encouraged to take collective action to deal with matters that can pose danger to the local community, he added.

According to an Interior Ministry statement, the Higher Safety Committee, which is chaired by Minister of Interior Saleh Hamad, discussed a report outlining a number of major problems facing Amman. These included issues pertaining to the sewage system, waste disposal, and building waste treatment plants.

## Ekeus due in Baghdad

(Continued from page 1)

Meanwhile, U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali and Iraq's Deputy Foreign Minister Riad Al Qaisi discussed the missile sites dispute and the possible sale of a limited quantity of Iraqi oil at a private meeting Monday, diplomatic sources said (see page 2).

## Regent opens conference

(Continued from page 1)

Crown Prince said.

"We refuse, primarily and essentially, any attempt aimed at smearing the reputation of Islam, and the defaming of Muslims as the enemies of tomorrow and the neo-terrorist elements that threaten the new world order in the aftermath of the cold war," the Crown Prince said.

Although the theme of the conference is "Man and the Future of Civilisation" and working papers deal with such themes, the on-going strife between Muslims and non-Muslims in at least half a dozen countries in bound to dominate much of the conference discussions. The strife between Muslim Azerbaijan and Armenian Christians was cited one of the three speakers in the opening session.

The head of the Higher Council of Muslims in the Caucasus, Sheikh Shakhur Bashzada, thanked Crown Prince Hassan and His Majesty King Hussein for trying to bring about a peaceful solution to the Azeri-Armenian conflict of the region of Nagorno-Karabakh.

"If the strife between Armenia and Azerbaijan is not dealt with properly, there could be grave consequences," Sheikh Bashzada warned.

Economic disparities, lack of political and social unity among Muslim countries as well as the continuing East-West divide, were all issues referred to by the three opening speakers, Crown Prince Hassan, head of the Al Al Baith Foundation Dr. Nassereddin Al Assad and Sheikh Bashzada.

At the United Nations in New York, Secretary-General Boutros Ghali, in critical comments apparently directed at Italy, said it was unacceptable for any troop contingent in Somalia to take action outside the U.N. command.

The criticism through spokesman Joe Sills came in response to unconfirmed reports that Italian troops and other contingents were following orders from their capitals instead of the U.N.

"The secretary-general feels very strongly that in any U.N. operation the force commander must be in control of that operation in terms of working within the mandate as established by the Security Council," Mr. Sills said.

reporters after the Ross-Rabin meeting.

Mr. Rubinstein would not say what the message was, but Israeli media reported earlier this week that Mr. Rabin had asked Mr. Ross to deliver a stern warning to Syria.

Five Israeli soldiers died in clashes with Lebanese guerrillas over the weekend. Israel sees Syria as ultimately responsible for Lebanese guerrilla activity.

Arabs have united behind the Palestinian demand that the peace talks focus on the boundaries of Palestinian control during the five-year period of self-rule and that East Jerusalem must be included.

## American efforts 'encouraging'

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Rabin said he had found all sides serious about trying to bridge their differences.

"I think everybody is very serious about trying to find those ways (to bridge gaps) and at this point we're just going to continue in that effort," Mr. Ross said.

Elyakim Rubinstein, the top Israeli negotiator with the Palestinians, said Mr. Ross had conveyed a message from Mr. Rabin to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad about recent tension on the Israeli-Lebanese border.

"There are problems on the Lebanese border... Israel's concerns were made known, also to the Syrians," Mr. Rubinstein told